TALES OF LOVE, LOSS AND HAIRSPRAY!

LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER

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LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER

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CPM®
MANGA
New York, New York

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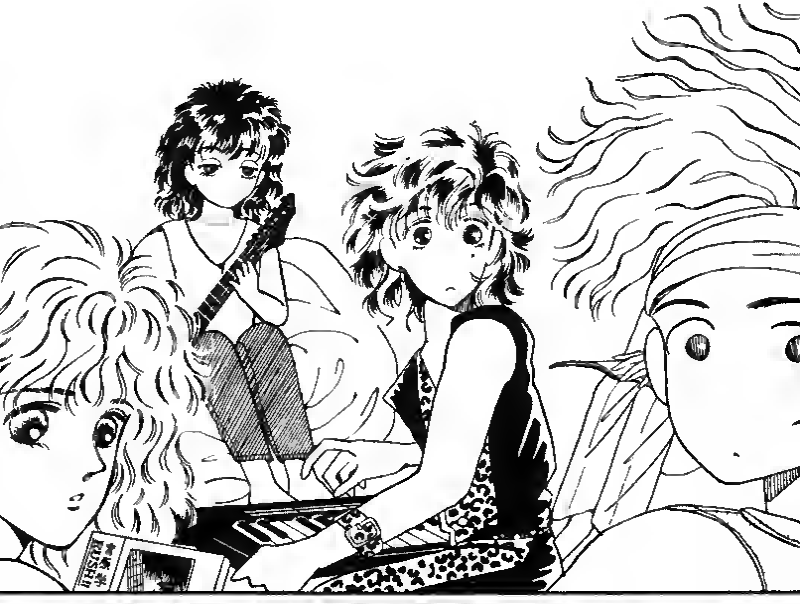


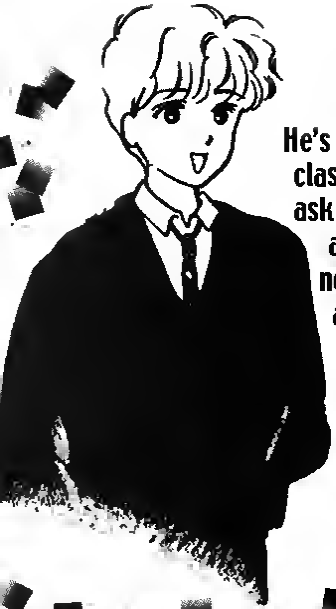
Character Profiles

AYAMI ARII

Ayami is a shy girl unsure of her feelings, but she can't deny the burgeoning affection she feels for Leo the metalhead.

LEO

Leo is bolsterous, outgoing, and loves making friends. All the girls in school are crazy about him! He's only shy about one thing...showing his feelings for the girl he loves.



SAKAMOTO

He's a nice boy in Ayami's class. He has the guts to ask Ayami out on a date and she won't say no...but her feelings aren't really with Sakamoto.

YOSHI

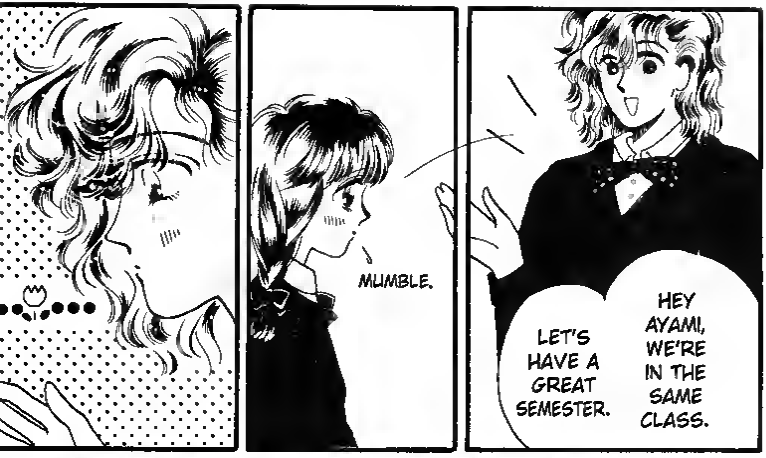
The class brain has always been a good friend to Ayami. Can he help her through her feelings to make the right decision?

ずっと
一緒(いっしょ)に
いようね
Let's Stay Together Forever

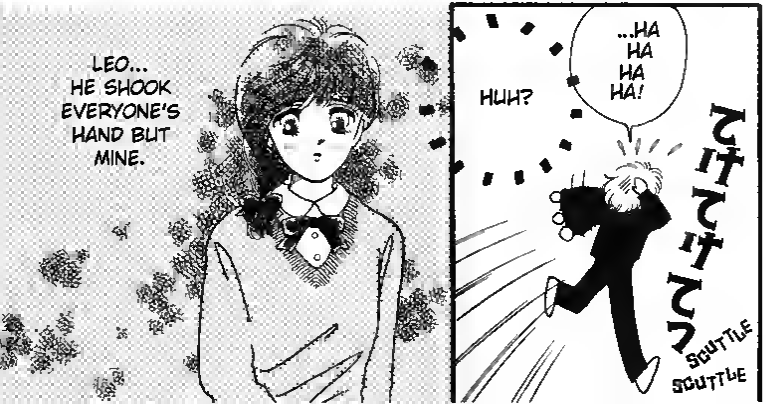
AWW, KAORI, WE'RE NOT IN HOMEROOM TOGETHER!
OH NO.
BUT WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER IN GYM AND HOME EC.
I GOT SEPARATED FROM MY FRIEND-
-AND I'M NOT TOO GOOD AT MAKING NEW FRIENDS.
Hey! やっほ!
HEY THERE EVERYONE. WHICH LADIES DO I GET TO SHARE HOMEROOM WITH?

KYAA!!
きゃあっ
Squeeze
にぎ!!
!!
ARE WE IN THE SAME CLASS AS LEO? HE'S A RIOT!
HEY, AKI AND SAYAKA, ARE WE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN? LET'S HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER.
UGH. CLASS IS GONNA BE OUT OF CONTROL.
YOU'D BETTER HELP ME STUDY.
PURR
ゴロゴロ
YEAH! YOSHI, WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS! I'M SO HAPPY!
女子全員あいさつまわり!!
GREETING ALL THE GIRLS!!
HALLOOOO NATCHYAN!
HI! CHIE!
NICE TO SEE YOU, MIKARIN!
THE ONLY PERSON I KNOW.
HEY!
HEY!
HEY!
あくしゅ shake
あくしゅ shake
あくしゅ shake

JEEZ. HE MUST KNOW EVERY GIRL'S NAME IN THIS GRADE.
WHAT A MANE OF HAIR, AND HE'S SO OUTGOING!
HE USED TO COME CHILL IN OUR CLASS DURING EVERY BREAK.
NO, MORE LIKE, IN THIS SCHOOL.
HELLO HELLO
I ALWAYS TOTALLY LOOKED FORWARD TO THAT.
HUH?
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS...


HEY AYAMI, WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS.
LET'S HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER.
MUMBLE.

UH...
A hand with nowhere to go!
rustle


LEO... HE SHOOK EVERYONE'S HAND BUT MINE.
HUH?
...HA HA HA HA!
SCUTTLE SCUTTLE

CHATTER
GAYA...
CHATTER
GAYA
I GUESS I'LL BE EATING MY LUNCH BY MYSELF FOR A WHILE.
ぼっ
ALL
ALONE
ゆん...
ぽつーん
AYAMI! WE'RE GOING TO THE BAKERY.
BUT I BROUGHT LUNCH...
BUT GIRLS TAKE SOMEONE WITH THEM EVEN WHEN THEY GO TO THE BATHROOM!
WHAT!!
WHENEVER YOU HAVE TO DO ANYTHING, YOU ALWAYS TAKE A FRIEND WITH YOU.
SO YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!!
O-OKAY. I'LL GO WITH YOU, JUST DON'T HAVE A COW.
I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT HE'S KINDA SCARY

WHY DID I HAVE TO GET YELLED AT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT? WE'LL TOTALLY GET IT.
BLAH-BLAH
I'M TOO SCARED TO SAY NO
A VEGGIE SANDWICH AND...
-SCENE OF A RABBIT BEING CARRIED OFF BY A LION-
LEO! I WANT TO GO TO THE BAKERY TOO!
ME TOO!
COME ON, YOU'RE COMING.
CLANG
LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WHO WILL GO WITH.
HEY, WHAT CLASS WERE YOU IN? I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE.
I JOINED B CLASS LAST YEAR. AYAMI ARII, NICE TO MEET YOU.
HI I'M AYAMI
TIME FOR TRAINING AYAMI.
LWA LWA LWA
GYAHHH I'M GOING TOO!!

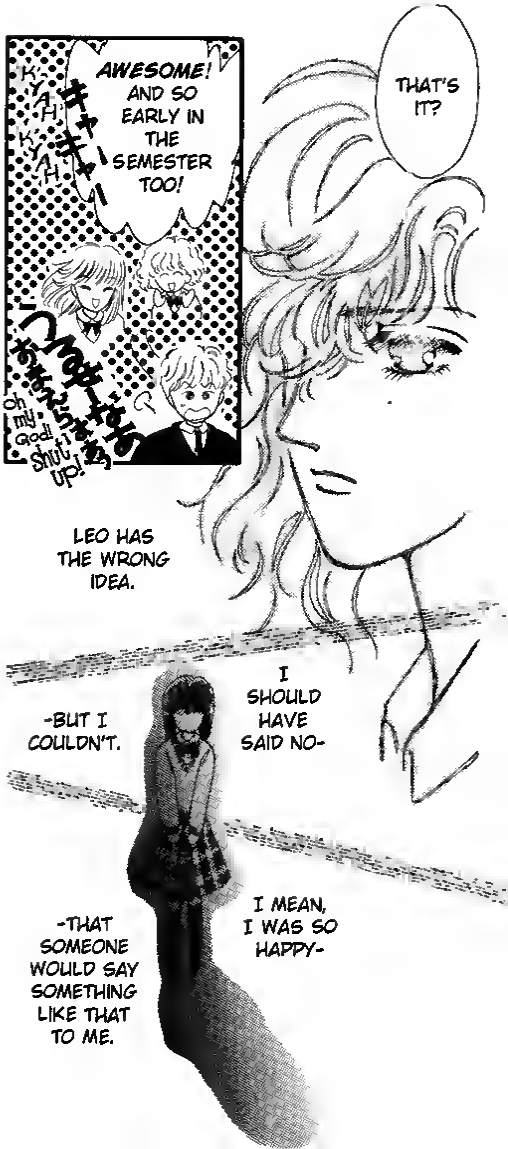
TWO VEGGIE SANDWICHES AND TWO SWEET ROLLS.
Push
LIKE, YOSHI'S IN CLASS B ISN'T HE? THEY SEEM AWFULLY FRIENDLY.
COME TO THINK OF IT, LEO WAS ALWAYS HANGING OUT IN CLASS B.
NEXT PERSON!
Push
Push
LEO IS SO BIG AND HE STANDS OUT, SO HE HAS AN ADVANTAGE IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS.
PUSH PUSH
I HOPE YOU GET USED TO THE NEW CLASS SOON.
HUH?
YOU CAN'T BE A LONER FOREVER.
I WONDER..
blah blah
ぐぅぅぅ

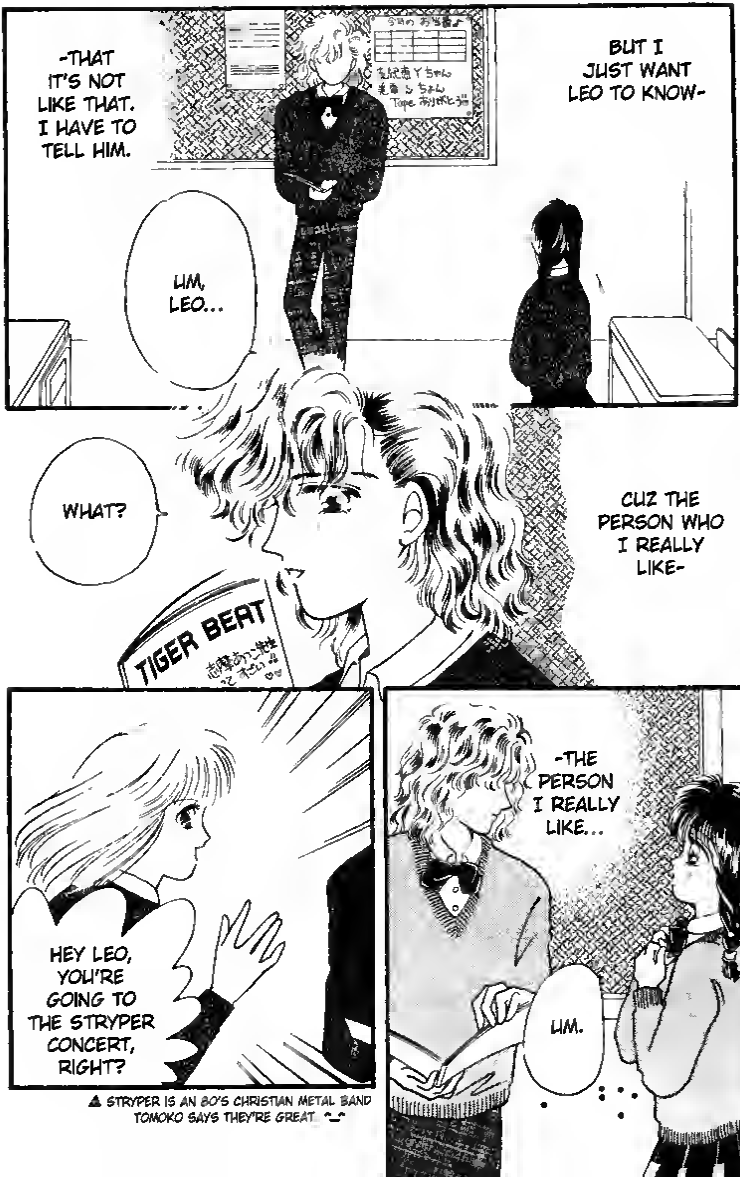
LIKE, AYAMI, ARE YOU GOING STRAIGHT HOME? WHY DON'T WE STOP OFF SOMEWHERE? IT IS SATURDAY, AFTER ALL.
I WAS ALL ALONE, SO ANYWAY-
-DID HE ASK ME TO GO WITH HIM?
!!
UM. AYAMI, I WAS WONDERING IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU LIKE...
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TALK TO YOU-
-BUT I'VE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE A GUY IS ASKING ME THIS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HEY, THAT GIRL!
SHE'S WITH SAKAMOTO!

YOU WERE ON A DATE WITH MR. SAKAMOTO.
KYAH! GOOD MORNING, AYAMI. I SAW YOU ON SATURDAY.
AND NUMBER THREE IS . .
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? A DATE?
WHO? WITH WHO?

NO, THAT WASN'T... IT WASN'T...
WHAT... A DATE?
AYAMI?
NO, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT, LEO.
HERE HE COMES. IT'S SAKAMOTO. HIM.
WHO WERE YOU OUT WITH?

WHAT? WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
LEO...
GOSH AYAMI! YOU LOOK LIKE THE QUIET TYPE BUT YOU ALREADY HAVE A NEW BOYFRIEND. NOT FAIR!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT SATURDAY ?
WE JUST WALKED HOME TOGETHER.


KYAH! KYAH! キャー キャー
AWESOME! AND SO EARLY IN THE SEMESTER TOO!
おまえらうるさい
Oh my God! Shut up!
THAT'S IT?
LEO HAS THE WRONG IDEA.
I SHOULD HAVE SAID NO-
-BUT I COULDN'T.
I MEAN, I WAS SO HAPPY-
-THAT SOMEONE WOULD SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME.


-THAT IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. I HAVE TO TELL HIM.
BUT I JUST WANT LEO TO KNOW-
UM, LEO...
WHAT?
CUZ THE PERSON WHO I REALLY LIKE-
TIGER BEAT
HEY LEO, YOU'RE GOING TO THE STRYPER CONCERT, RIGHT?
-THE PERSON I REALLY LIKE...
UM.

▲ STRYPER IS AN 80'S CHRISTIAN METAL BAND TOMOKO SAYS THEY'RE GREAT ^-^

OF COURSE WE ARE
I TRIED CURLING MY HAIR RECENTLY
IMAMURA
NO, WITH A FRIEND.
ARE YOU GOING ALONE?
YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE ME GO WITH YOU, TANAKA YU?
WE'RE GOING TOO. WHY DON'T WE ALL GO TOGETHER?
OKAY.
ALL RIGHT, SAYAKA!
SHE LIKES LEO, TOO.
SHE'S MUCH BETTER AT TALKING THAN I AM, AND THEY SEEM LIKE THEY HAVE A LOT MORE IN COMMON.
THEY'RE A GOOD COUPLE.

-WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE IF HE HAS THE WRONG IDEA?
SINCE IT'S ONE SIDED ANYWAY-
I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE COURAGE-
HUH? I FORGOT MY LUNCH.
わい yay!
わい yay!
ONE DONUT!
YES!
-TO TELL HIM HOW I FEEL.

スススmm
slide
スススmm
slide
UM, AN EGG SALAD SANDWICH.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
NOW THAT YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND, YOU SHOULD GET HIM TO BUY YOUR SANDWICHES FOR YOU.
WELL, GOOD LUCK WITH HIM.
THE PERSON I REALLY LIKE IS...
BUT...
... THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS.
LEO. THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN BUY SANDWICHES BETTER THAN LEO.
IF HE EVER CHEATS ON YOU OR MAKES YOU CRY-
-I'LL PUT HIM IN HIS PLACE!

None of my business!
OH, I GUESS IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
WHY WOULD LEO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
LEO IS TOTALLY RAD.
BUT I'M SERIOUS...
...EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT BE ANY OF MY BUSINESS.

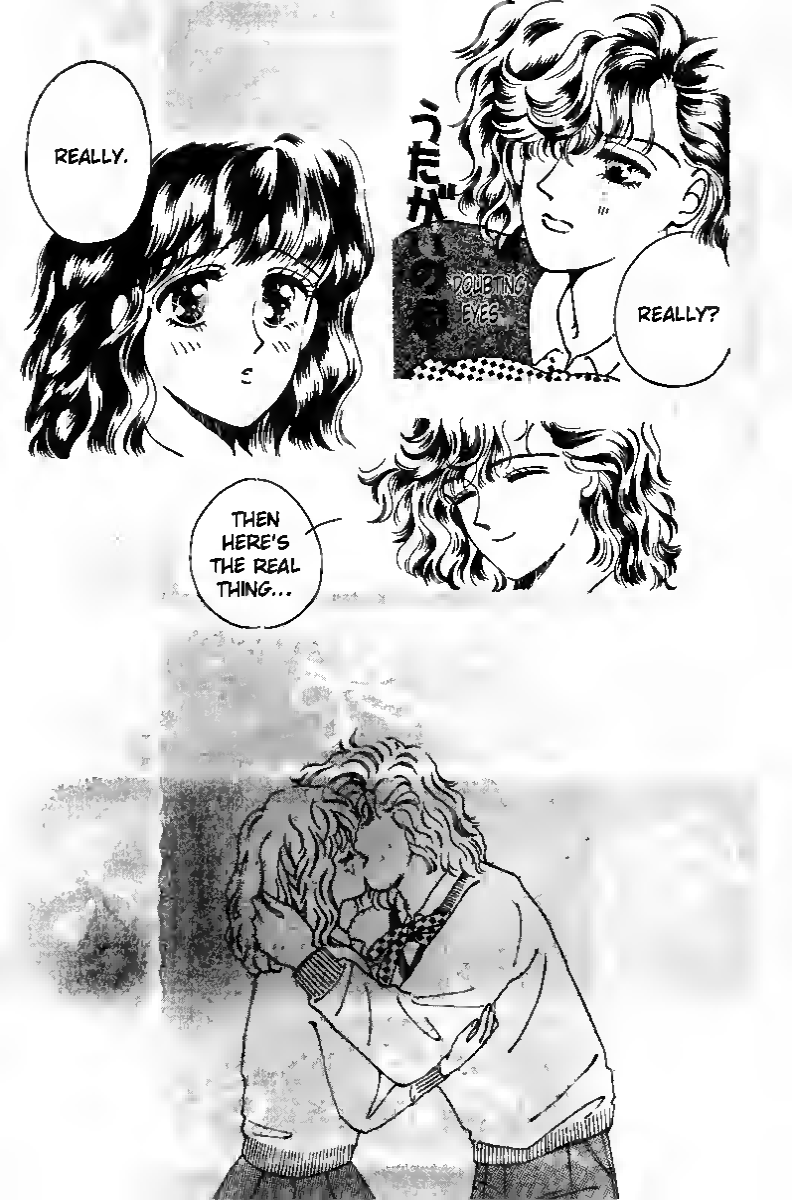
HEY, LEO...
WHAT'S WRONG?
tug
つん...
L-LEO?
IF THIS IS HOW IT WAS GOING TO BE-
-I SHOULD HAVE MADE A MOVE EARLIER.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE TOO SHY-
-AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO WAY YOU WOULD GO OUT WITH A GUY.
THAT'S WHY I LEFT YOU ALONE.
LE...
YOU MEAN... YOU MEAN...

SHE'S CRYING!
GULP.
W-WHAT?
HEY, LET GO!
MY SWEATER IS GOING TO SHRINK!
HEY, YOU'RE GOING TO SHRINK MY SWEATER! DON'T GET IT ALL WET!
THAT'S ALL IT WAS.
NO ONE HAS EVER ASKED ME OUT LIKE THAT BEFORE.
I COULDN'T SAY NO.

I SEE.
OF COURSE YOU CAN'T SAY NO.
BUT...
... THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU HAVE TO SPEAK YOUR MIND.
YOU'LL ONLY GET YOURSELF IN TROUBLE LATER.
SAY NO WHEN YOU MEAN NO.
GOT IT?

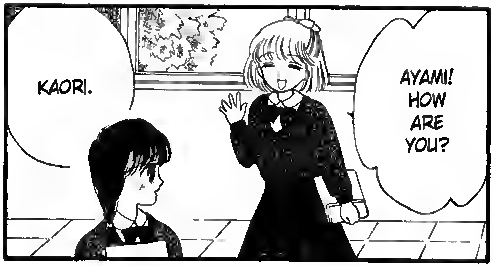
YEAH.
SEE! YOU HAVE TO SAY NO!
ばっ
woosh
WHAT?
I WOULDN'T MIND AT ALL!

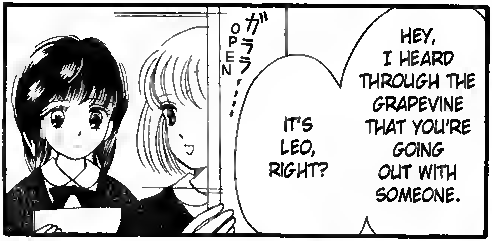

REALLY.
うたがいの目
DOUBTING EYES
REALLY?
THEN HERE'S THE REAL THING...

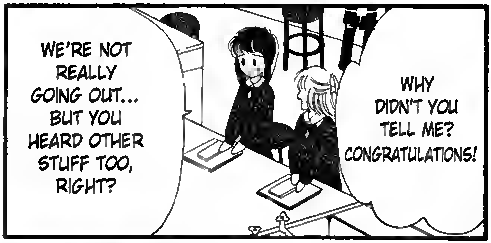
HEY LEO, HAVE YOU BOUGHT ANY RAD NEW ALBUMS LATELY?
UM, SKID ROW.
?
I WONDER IF SAYS THAT THE GUYS IN SKID ROW ARE GORGEOUS, BUT EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE CUTE IN THEIR VIDEOS, THEIR SONGS SUCK BUTT!
AYAMI, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS, DO YOU?
WELL... THE MUSIC YOU LISTEN TO IS IN ENGLISH, IT'S REALLY LOUD AND THE LYRICS ARE ALL CRUDE, RIGHT?
HEY! THAT'S NOT FAIR!
EUROPE AND STRYPER HAVE CLASS!
WELL, I DON'T REALLY KNOW.
I'D LISTEN TO STUFF THAT ISN'T TOO CRUDE OR LOUD.
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ANYTHING NASTY.
FINE! I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU A TAPE AND FORCE YOU TO LISTEN TO IT.

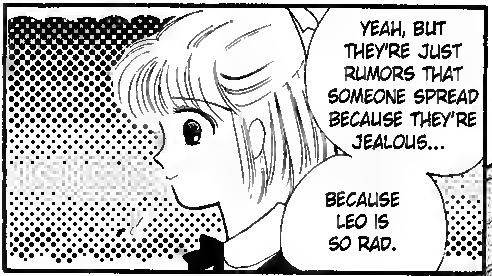
LET'S GO SEE BON JOVI WHEN THEY COME.
DO I HAVE TO GO?
YOU HAVE TO.
THEY'RE AWFULLY FRIENDLY...
EVEN THOUGH SHE HAD THAT THING WITH SAKAMOTO.
SHE LOOKS LIKE THE QUIET TYPE BUT I BET SHE'S REALLY SELFISH.
whisper
YEAH...AND WHAT ABOUT SAKAMOTO? POOR GUY.
whisper
THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL LAST. THEY'RE NOT MEANT TO BE TOGETHER.

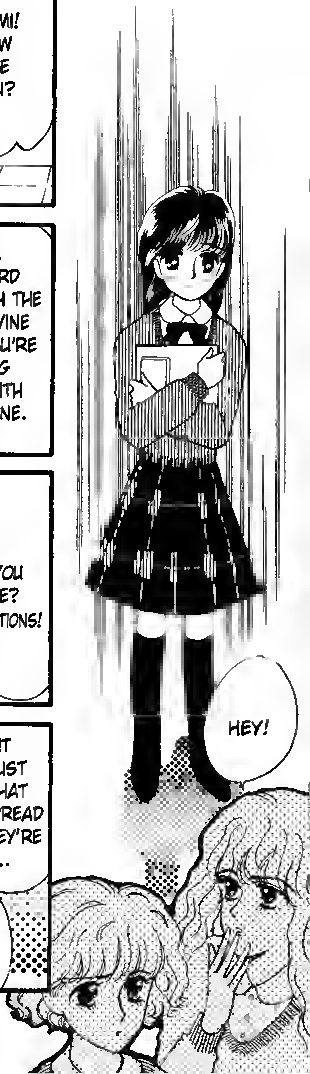
I BET YOU MISS ME.
HOW ARE YOU? WE'RE NOT IN THE SAME CLASS ANYMORE.
HEY, IT'S LEO!
OUR CLASS IS SO QUIET NOW WITHOUT YOUR BOIST-EROUSNESS!
I'VE BEEN WORKING EXTRA HARD ON MY PERSONALITY
DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT HAIR!
SHUT UP
うるさい
CLARK
SAYAKA IS IN YOUR CLASS, RIGHT?
IS SHE THE ONE!?
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE LEO! SHE LOOKS LIKE SUCH A DWEEB!
I COULD LET IT GO IF IT WAS SAYAKA.


KAORI.
AYAMI! HOW ARE YOU?


OPEN
IT'S LEO, RIGHT?
HEY, I HEARD THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE THAT YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE.


WE'RE NOT REALLY GOING OUT... BUT YOU HEARD OTHER STUFF TOO, RIGHT?
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME? CONGRATULATIONS!


YEAH, BUT THEY'RE JUST RUMORS THAT SOMEONE SPREAD BECAUSE THEY'RE JEALOUS...
BECAUSE LEO IS SO RAD.


HEY!

DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU.
YOU ALWAYS LIKED LEO.
NO, IT'S FINE.
I'LL CARRY THAT FOR YOU.
LEO, YOU'RE NOT ON DUTY TODAY.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. LEO STANDS OUT NO MATTER WHAT HE'S DOING.
I'M SURE LEO IS USED TO IT BUT...
grab
AYAMI, I BET YOU'VE NEVER LIFTED ANYTHING HEAVIER THAN A PAIR OF CHOPSTICKS.

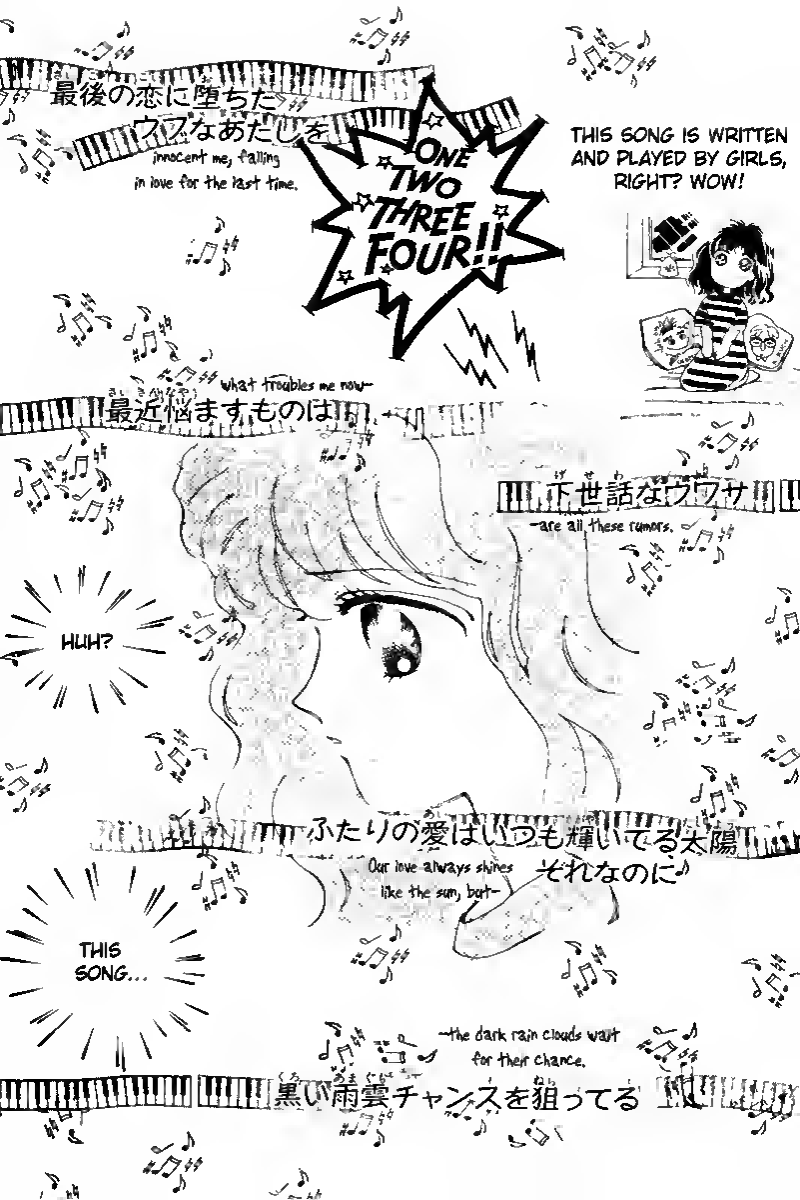
NO, IT'S FINE.
I'M NOT USED TO IT AT ALL.
WHAT DID I JUST DO?
OKAY.
OKAY. I'LL WAIT FOR YOU. LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER.
I'M SORRY LEO.
LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES TOMORROW.
A NICE MOVIE, OK?
NO HORROR MOVIES WHERE THEY PLAY METAL RECORDS BACKWARDS AND CALL FOR SATAN, OK?
I ONLY WATCH NICE MOVIES

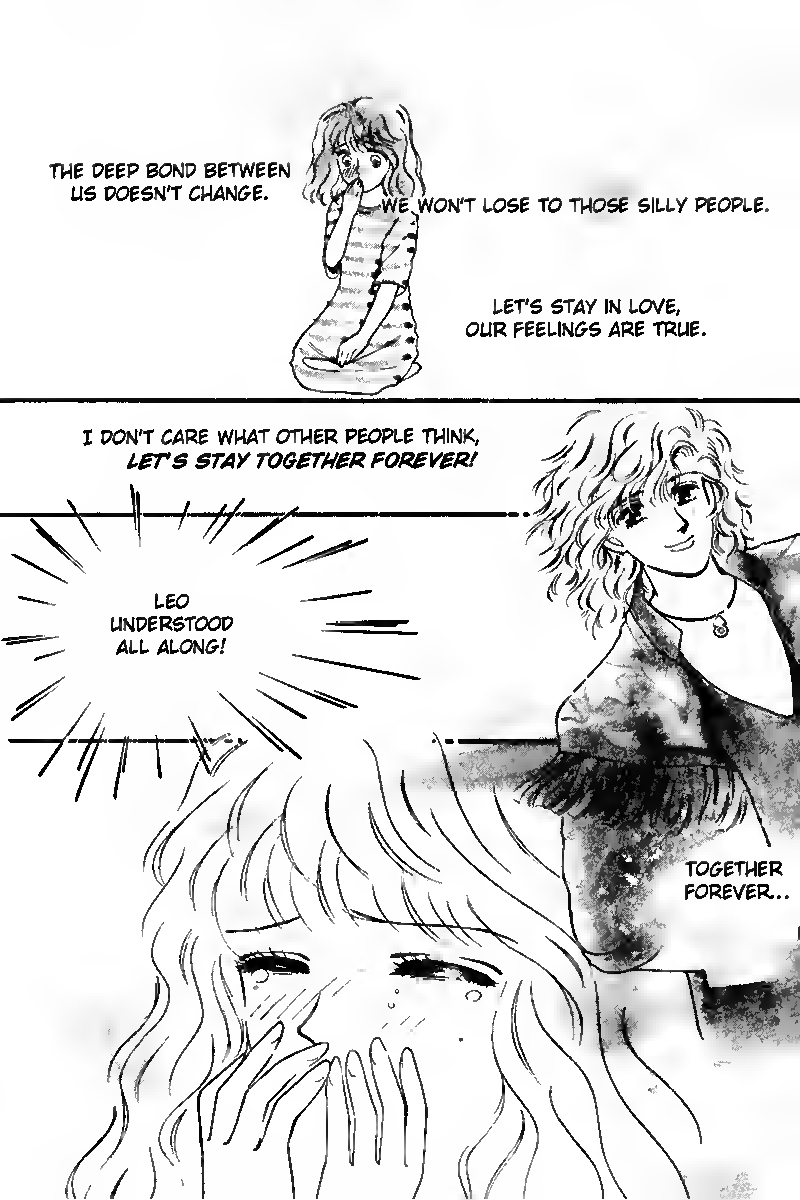
CINEMA
PLANET OF THE MIND
SLIPSTREAM
Mark Hamill, Bill Paxton, Bob Peck
©Stingray-Ko
WOULD YOU MIND? MY FRIEND IS WORKING.
HEY, IT'S LEO!
LONG TIME!
HI!
ハイ
ONE LOOK AND I CAN TELL THEY'RE FRIENDS.
JUST LIKE RAIN
5th Album
HEY, IT'S THE GIRL WHOSE POSTER HE HAS IN HIS ROOM.
GYAH!
?
WHAT POSTER IS THAT?
HE USED TO COLLECT YURI SAITO'S BEFORE
BON JOVI, OF COURSE.
CASHIER
FUJI FILM
WE HAVE A NEW ONE
LET ME HAVE A POSTER!
IS IT BON JOVI?
SHUT UP, NOT SO LOUD.
NO, YUI ASAKA'S!

HIS GIRLFRIEND SHOULD REALLY BE MORE METALLIC
KYA!
ISN'T THAT A METAL HEAD? I WANNA FOLLOW HIM!
DOO DEE DOO
DEE DOO
I WONDER-
-IF WE LOOK LIKE BOYFRIEND AND GIRLFRIEND WHEN WE WALK LIKE THIS...
BAG WITH BAND LOGO. (BOUGHT AT A CONCERT)
I DON'T THINK SO.
IT'S LIKE EVERYONE IS SAYING-
-WE'RE JUST NOT RIGHT FOR EACH OTHER.

IS IT THAT EMBARRASSING TO BE SEEN WITH ME?
MAYBE YOU DON'T REALLY LIKE ME.
NO, YOU'RE WRONG.
BUT IT'S THE SAME AS IT WAS WITH SAKAMOTO... YOU JUST COULDN'T SAY NO.
...
I MADE A TAPE OF SOME SONGS THAT AREN'T TOO HARD.
IT'S NOT METAL.
A
B
GET CRAZY
STAY THERE (-)
BOUND TO BE MY BABY
SUPERSTITIOUS
OPEN YOUR HEART
STRYPER
ALWAYS HERE ONLY
I BELIEVE IN YOU
HONESTY
ALL OF ME
SHE DON'T KNOW
CALLING ON YOU

I'M SORRY. I REALLY LIKE YOU SO MUCH.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT-
-YOU DON'T NEED TO LISTEN TO IT. THROW IT OUT.
I'M SORRY.
I CARE TOO MUCH.
I'M SENSITIVE ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY.
あ!ちゃんは
FURI FURI IS FIRST
CLICK
プチ・・・
THIS MUSIC MAY NOT BE HARD FOR LEO, BUT THIS INTRO S PLENTY HARD FOR ME.
びっくり!! SHOCK!!
SCREAM
SCREECH


最後の恋に堕ちた
ウブなあたしを
Innocent me, falling
in love for the last time.
ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR!!
THIS SONG IS WRITTEN AND PLAYED BY GIRLS, RIGHT? WOW!
what troubles me now—
最近悩ますものは
下世話なウワサ
—are all these rumors.
HUH?
ふたりの愛はいつも輝いてる太陽
Our love always shines
like the sun, but—
それなのに♪
THIS SONG...
—the dark rain clouds wait
for their chance.
黒い雨雲チャンスを狙ってる


THE DEEP BOND BETWEEN US DOESN'T CHANGE.
WE WON'T LOSE TO THOSE SILLY PEOPLE.
LET'S STAY IN LOVE, OUR FEELINGS ARE TRUE.
I DON'T CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK, LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER!
LEO UNDERSTOOD ALL ALONG!
TOGETHER FOREVER...

SLAM
SIS, TURN IT DOWN. WHEN DID YOU START LISTENING TO METAL?
YEAH.
I'M SORRY LEO.
ALL THE REST OF LEO'S SONGS ARE HARD ROCK BUT...
LOVE YOU HONESTLY
I NEVER KNEW THIS MUSIC COULD SPEAK TO ME SO DEEPLY...
TEENS GET EMOTIONAL... I KNOW THAT I USED TO LOVE ELVIS.
MOM! SIS IS LISTENING TO THIS LOUD ROCK MUSIC AND CRYING. SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

BYE
BEE YA
SAKAMOTO, THANK YOU FOR ASKING ME OUT THE OTHER DAY.
HEY. NO PROB-LEM!
I COULDN'T SAY IT AT THE TIME, BUT THERE IS SOMEONE THAT I LIKE A LOT.
I'M SORRY IF I MADE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE.
NO PROBLEM. I'M OKAY, SO DON'T WORRY...
MY UNIVERSE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

THE ONE THAT I PICKED IS A GEM,
oh, yeah.
LEO.
THE VOLTAGE IS TOTALLY MAXED OUT, BUT I CAN'T BREAK AWAY.
A METAL BIRD CAGE AND A TRAP THAT'S SET...
LET'S-

-GO HOME TO-GETHER.
OF COURSE!
SAYAKA.
I DON'T CARE.
BESIDES, MR. KIMURA IS MORE MY TYPE ANYWAY.
AND IF IT DOESN'T WORK WITH MR. KIMURA, I'LL HAVE HIM INTRODUCE ME TO A FRIEND OF HIS.
YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT!
YOU JUST CAN'T STAY AWAY FROM THE METAL-HEADS.

MEN AND WOMEN
HAVE BEEN FALLING
IN LOVE FOR AGES.

LET'S STAY IN LOVE,
OUR FEELINGS ARE TRUE.
I DON'T CARE WHAT
OTHER PEOPLE THINK,
LET'S STAY TOGETHER
FOREVER.
The End

HELLO! IT'S ME, LEO.

HELLO TO ALL OF YOU ***CPM MANGA READERS!***

AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO FOUND THIS COMIC AND THOUGHT "HUH? WHO'S THIS METALHEAD?" AND HAD TO HAVE A COPY: ***NICE TO MEET YOU!***

THE COVER MIGHT LOOK LIKE STANDARD SHOUJO BUT THE MANGA IS FULL OF GAGS, SO IT SHOULD SURPRISE YOU...OR NOT.

WHEN I WROTE THIS... I HAD ONLY WRITTEN 10 COMICS. (IT WAS 1 YEAR AFTER MY DEBUT)... AND OF THOSE, 5 ENDED UP AS PUBLISHED MANGA, SO I'M BOTH EMBARRASSED AND HAPPY. I CAN'T THANK GOD, MY FRIENDS, MY FAMILY AND THE EDITING STAFF AND OMA-COMI ENOUGH. (I SOUND HUMBLE HERE BUT IN REAL LIFE I TAKE ALL THE CREDIT.)

"LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER" IS THE NEWEST STORY IN THIS COLLECTION, SO IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN AT THE VERY END, BUT THEN THAT WOULD HAVE MADE MY DEBUT STORY FIRST. I WANTED YOU ALL TO SEE SOMETHING BETTER THAN MY DEBUT, SO WE PUT *"LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER"* FIRST. THE REST IS IN THE ORDER OF OLDEST TO NEWEST, STARTING WITH *"ANPAN BALANCE."*

THE MODEL FOR LEO WAS THE METALHEAD WHO HUNG OUT WITH ME AT D-LAND. YOU WERE REALLY CUTE WITH THAT STUFFED ANIMAL. (WHEN DIANNE COMES BACK TO JAPAN, LET'S HANG OUT AGAIN!)

"ANPAN BALANCE" WAS WRITTEN WHEN I WAS AN AMATEUR, AND BECAME MY DEBUT PIECE WHEN IT WON THE SILVER PRIZE IN THE 4TH OMACOMI MANGA SCHOOL CONTEST. AT THAT TIME, THERE WERE NO BON JOVI COMMERCIALS OUT YET, AND THE OMACOMI READERS WERE WONDERING, WHO IS BON JOVI? RIGHT AFTER THIS CAME OUT, THE METAL COMMERCIALS STARTED AND THE HEAVYMETAL BOOM STARTED AND BANDS STARTED COMING TO JAPAN, AND CHARACTERS LIKE LEO BECAME COOL WITH THE READERS.

(CONT. ON PAGE 184.)

I'M SO HAPPY THAT THERE ACTUALLY *IS* A METALHEAD WHO CALLS HIMSELF "MR. LION"!!

TA-DA!
あんPAN
ばらんす
ANPAN BALANCE

OH NO... OH NO... I'M SO NERVOUS IT'S MAKING ME EVEN MORE SHY.
POUND
POUND
HMM, B CLASS HAS A NEW STUDENT...
WHAT'S HER NAME?
AYAMI ARII.
I THOUGHT I WOULD USE THIS CHANGE OF SCHOOLS TO MAKE A CHANGE.
YEAH, AND SHE'S REALLY GLOOMY. YOU TALK TO HER AND SHE DOESN'T EVEN SAY ANYTHING.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SHY.
SHOULD WE ASK AYAMI TO COME?
SHE'S TOO QUIET... SHE'S SO BORING TO BE AROUND.

BAM
WHAT? WHAT?
CAN I COME?
WHAT? A TRANSFER STUDENT? WHERE?
HIS HAIR IS WILD. IT TOTALLY DOESN'T GO WITH HIS UNIFORM.
A GIRL! WOW, THE B CLASS IS SO LUCKY.
WOW, HE'S HAPPY.
YOU HAVE RED BEAN BUNS ON YOUR HEAD!
HEY!
今日のおやつ
SNACK OF THE DAY

どーしよ!!
RED BEAN...
OH NO! I'M NEVER GOING TO WEAR MY HAIR LIKE THIS AGAIN.
OH LEO, YOU'RE ALWAYS SO FUNNY.
LIKE PRINCESS LEIA IN STAR WARS
GIGGLE GIGGLE!
クスクス
HUH?
HEY, THAT WAS GREAT.
GRAB
はしっ
float
AMA-PAM

SEE YA!
BY THE WAY, YOU CAN HAVE THE BUN.
IT'S A WELCOME GIFT FOR THE TRANSFER STUDENT.
LEO'S SO NICE
HE'S SO CUTE
ぴゅ ぴゅ!
HE SEEMS SO FRIENDLY AND FUN AND HE'S SO TOGETHER!
I BET PEOPLE LIKE HIM HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS.
-I COULD BE LIKE THAT.
UH, YEAH.
THAT'S GREAT, AYAMI.
I WISH -
THEY'RE NOT RED BEAN BUNS!
THERE'S PRINCESS LEIA AGAIN!
OPEN
ガラッ
HEY YOSHI, CAN I BORROW YOUR DICTIONARY ?

ta-da!
じゃーん!
YOU'RE RIGHT... THEY'RE CHOCOLATE HORNS!
HMMM...
tremble
ぴくぴく
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
W-WHAT!
YOUR HAIR LOOKS LIKE A LION'S MANE!
OH NO, WHAT DID I...
HEY, IT'S TRUE!
OH JEEZ, AYAMI...

YOU BROUGHT IT ON YOURSELF
OH MY GOD! I WAS ATTACKED, YOSHI!
HERE'S THE DICTIONARY
I CAN'T BELIEVE I SAID THAT!
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO CHANGE, JUST A BIT.
I COME FROM CHINA, MY NAME IS MOPPEY CAT!
HE JUST DOESN'T LEARN.
HA
HA!
HA
I THINK...
WHEN I'M WITH MR. LION...
WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN
HEY, BE CAREFUL WITH MY DICTIONARY!
HMMM, I WONDER WHY MR. LION HASN'T BEEN TO VISIT YOSHI THE LAST FEW DAYS?
CLOSE
THANK YOU AGAIN MOTHER.
clip
clip

-I'M GOING TO GET ALL SHY AGAIN.
IF MR. LION DOESN'T COME AROUND-
ギロッ!
GLARE
THAT MANE OF HAIR!
HOW SCARY...
!?
-SAID ANY-THING.
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE-
UH, UM, HELLO.
MR. LI... LEO!
HAIR THAT'S EASY TO SPOT!
ﾀﾀﾀｯ
IT'S MR. LION!

DOES MR. LION HEAD LIKE JON BON JOVI?
HE SEEMS DIFFERENT, I WONDER IF IT'S THE OUTFIT.
OH, IT'S THE PRINCESS LEIA!
EEK, I'M SO EMBARRASSED!!
JON BON JOVI?
YEAH, JON!
SEE YA.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH MR. LION?
W-WAIT!? WHAT'S WRONG?
YEAH...
I'M THINKING OF CHOPPING IT ALL OFF.

I DON'T LIKE TO IGNORE MY DAD, BUT HE HAS TROUBLE UNDER-STANDING.
I WAS WORKING REALLY HARD AT SCHOOL-
-TO MAKE SURE BOTH THINGS WORKED OUT.
RECORD
ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS NOW!!
MY FRIENDS HAVE A BAND.
I WANT TO JOIN...BUT YOU KNOW...MY DAD IS DEAD SET AGAINST THINGS LIKE THAT.
KIRK CAMERON and SEAN ASTIN
IN LIKE FATHER LIKE SON
MR. LION...
...EVEN MR. LION HAS HIS TROUBLES TOO...
BUT IF HE DOESN'T-
-GET BACK TO NORMAL...
NOW... ALL OF MY MOTIVATION IS SHOT.
BUT HE DIDN'T UNDER-STAND.
WE HAD A HUGE FIGHT A FEW DAYS AGO.

B-BUT I'M SURE HE'LL UNDER-STAND SOME DAY.
I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO SAY IN TIMES LIKE THIS.
YOU SEEM SO HAPPY!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY WORRIES.
I ENVY PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

DOES HE REALLY BELIEVE THAT I DON'T HAVE-
-ANY WORRIES IN THE WORLD ?!
UH...
WHEN I FIRST MET YOU-
-I WAS SO ENVIOUS.
YOU'RE SO OUT-GOING, AND FUN-
-AND YOU HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS.
I WAS GOING TO TRY TO BE JUST LIKE MR. LION!
OH, I'M BABBLING...
I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT THAT MR. LION HAD PROBLEMS.
BUT...

YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!
STORM
ガッ
I BET THERE ARE NO PASTRIES LIKE THIS.
ARE THERE BRAIDED PASTRIES?
AS IF... I'M SO HAPPY.

I WONDER IF I REALLY LOOK LIKE THAT.
MY EYES ARE STILL RED
I THINK IT WAS A FIRST.
AND I CAN'T BELIEVE I SAID ALL THAT!
HEY SIS, YOU'RE LAUGHING IN THE WRONG PLACE!
HA HA HA
-FEEL LIGHTER.
I KIND OF-
LAUGH LAUGH
ケラケラ

わいわい
BLAH BLAH
スススス...
SLIDE
WOW, SOME PEOPLE CAN REALLY MOVE THROUGH A CROWD!
スススス...
SLIDE
プロ!
Pro
WAS IT LIKE THIS AT YOUR OLD SCHOOL TOO?
WOW, I COULD NEVER MAKE IT TO THE COUNTER.
BLAH BLAH
わいわい
SPICY CURRY!
CUSTARD DONUT!
!?
I CAN'T BELIEVE I SAID THOSE THINGS TO YOU.
I DID THIS TO COOL OFF.
SO HE'S NOT A LION HEAD ANYMORE...
I DECIDED I'LL CONVINCE MY DAD IN THE TIME IT TAKES MY HAIR TO GROW BACK.

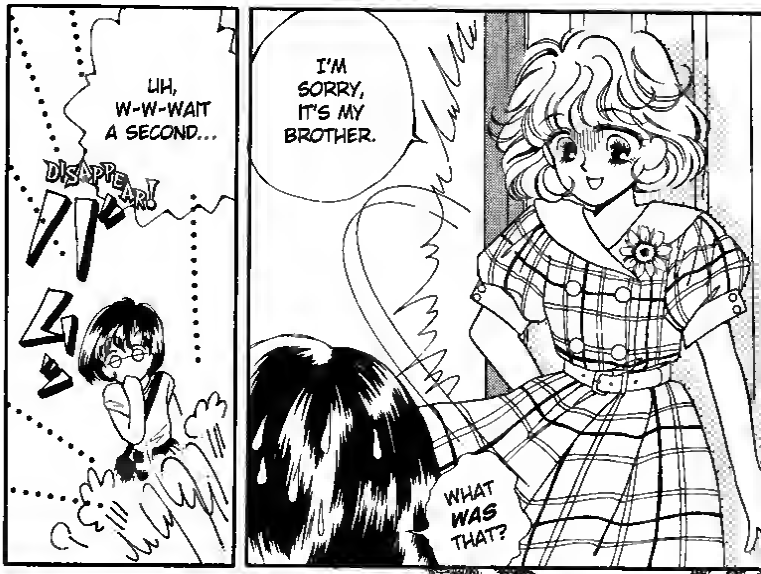
AND I WANT TO SAY THE SAME THING TO YOU.
THANKS.
THANK YOU-
-FOR SAYING THAT I'M YOUR INSPIR-ATION.
HUH?!

BUT YOU'VE JUST MADE ME SO HAPPY-
-THAT I'LL JUST KEEP IT TO MYSELF.
The End
TOMOKO TANIOKA

お兄さまはナイーヴ☆メタル
BIG BROTHER IS A NAÏVE METALHEAD

I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
NO PROBLEM. EVERYONE'S OUT OF THE HOUSE-
-EVEN MY BROTHER.
BLUSH
MANA, YOU'RE SO LUCKY TO HAVE A BIG BROTHER AND HE'S SOO CUTE!
LOTS OF GIRLS WISH THEY HAD A BIG BROTHER..
YOUR BROTHER'S FRIENDS COME OVER TOO, RIGHT?
ARE ANY OF *THEM* CUTE?
UH HUH..

THERE IS ONE CUTE GUY-
-OR AT LEAST HE USED TO BE...
...
HERE WE ARE.
CLICK
HUH? IT'S OPEN.
GLARE
AAAAAA


UH, W-W-WAIT A SECOND...
DISAPPEAR!
I'M SORRY, IT'S MY BROTHER.
WHAT WAS THAT?

むぉ
UGH... HIS SWEATY BOOTS!
CLIMB
CLIMB

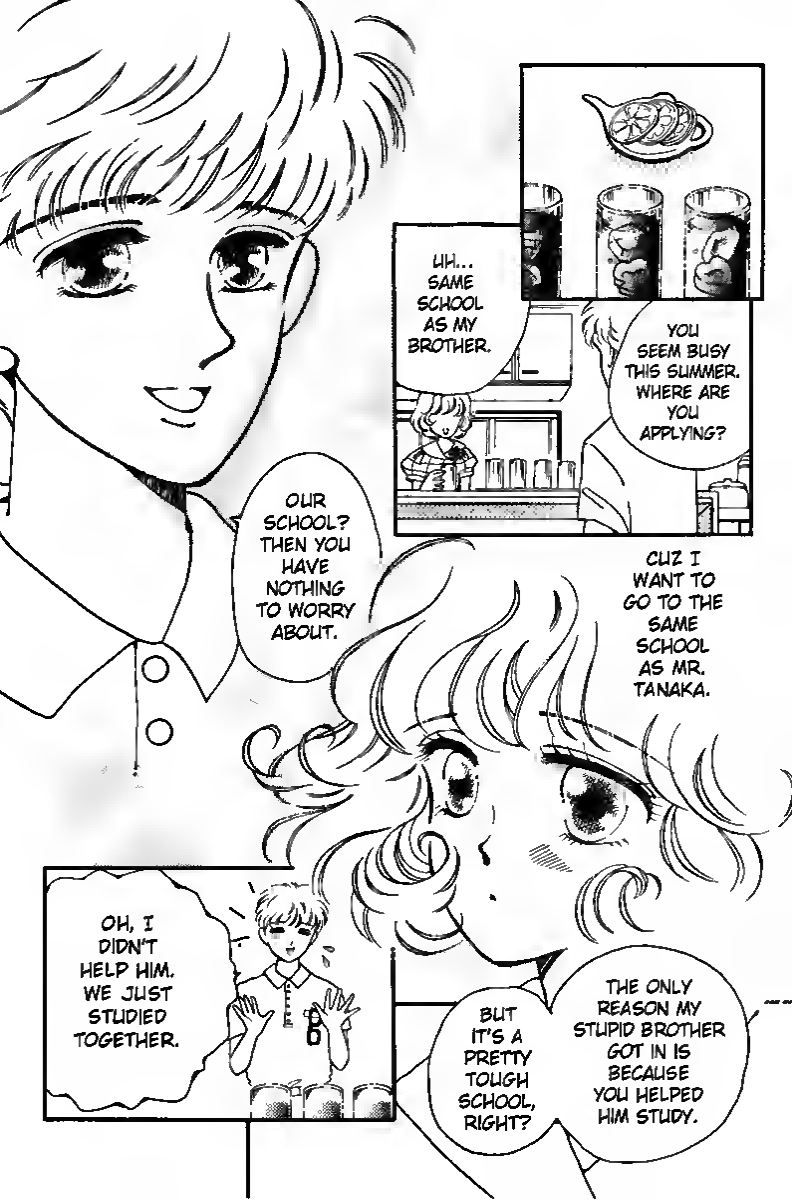
LEO'S ROOM
HEY! I'M STUDYING FOR MY EXAMS!
ばん
SLAM
HUH

MY CUTE BROTHER-
-AND HIS GORGEOUS FRIENDS... WHATEVER.
shudder
ルプルプル…

I'M GONNA TELL DAD.
I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING TO CHARM YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS.
I'LL GET RID OF THESE GUYS.
WHO WANTS A STUPID METALHEAD BROTHER LIKE HIM?
OH, I'M SORRY MANA, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING OUT TODAY.
charm
GIMME A BREAK! MANA'S SCARY WHEN SHE GETS MAD.
SLAM!
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
YOU'RE SUCH A WIMP, LEO.
WHOSE NICE SHOES ARE THESE?
IT MUST BE...
HAI-YAH!
JUST SEEING THEM MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL!

GULP.
HE'S HERE!
KNOCK KNOCK.
COME ON GUYS, BEHAVE.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S OK?
I'M SORRY, PLEASE COME IN, SHINO.
きちん
PRIM and PROPER
...
WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE!

?
HERE, IT'S YOUR FAVORITE, CHEESECAKE!
NO! MR. TANAKA!
OH NO, PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
JUST KEEP IT DOWN.
DIDN'T MEAN TO DISTURB YOU, MANA... WE'LL GET GOING...
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH DRINKS.
I'LL HELP.
SHE'S CUTE!
HMMM SOMETHING'S UP.


UH... SAME SCHOOL AS MY BROTHER.
YOU SEEM BUSY THIS SUMMER. WHERE ARE YOU APPLYING?
OUR SCHOOL? THEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
CUZ I WANT TO GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS MR. TANAKA.
OH, I DIDN'T HELP HIM. WE JUST STUDIED TOGETHER.
BUT IT'S A PRETTY TOUGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?
THE ONLY REASON MY STUPID BROTHER GOT IN IS BECAUSE YOU HELPED HIM STUDY.

I HOPE WE GET A LOT DONE.
I'M STUDYING WITH SOME FRIENDS TODAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I LOVE THIS THOUGHT-FULNESS.
HERE WE GO
IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND,
JUST LET ME KNOW.
I'M SO HAPPY!!
REALLY?

WHEN I WAS WRITING THIS, I WENT TO SEE GAKU MIYAHARA'S LIVE 3 CONCERT. SO I TOTALLY TURNED LEO INTO MIYAHARA. AND HE'S A MIXTURE OF JON BON JOVI, ROBERT (FROM STRYPER), MY FRIEND SEAN (A LONG HAIRED CANADIAN), AND WILLEM DAFOE, SO HIS HAIR STYLE IS DIFFERENT IN EVERY STORY. LEO WAS DRAWN WITH A LION IN MIND BUT ALSO THE BELOVED ACTOR "RIO" TOO. MY BIG BROTHER USED TO BE AN "ELECTRIC KID" TOO! EEK!

PLAYING RECORDS BACKWARDS TO CALL THE DEVIL IS A COMMON THEME IN AMERICAN MOVIES LIKE *THE GATE* OR *AMAZING STORIES*.

SOMETHING I DISCOVERED MOST JAPANESE PEOPLE REFER TO HEAVY METAL AS "HEBI-META." IF YOU LIKE IT A LITTLE, YOU CALL IT "HEAVY META." IF YOU LIKE IT A LOT, YOU CALL IT METAL! (THIS TRANSITION CAN BE SEEN IN MY WORK TOO) HEE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE MR. TANAKA SAID HE'D HELP ME STUDY.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, SHINO.
I'VE SEEN A MILLION FACES AND I'VE ROCKED THEM ALL!
KEEP IT DOWN, OKAY?
METAL NEEDS TO BE BLASTED!
SKUMBLE
SKUMBLE
BAY CITY ROLLERS
I'VE HAD A CRUSH ON HIM SINCE I WAS LITTLE.

MR. TANAKA IS THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME THAT BEAUTY APPEARS IN THE MOST UNLIKELY PLACES.
WHATEVER!
I'M GOING TO STUDY REALLY HARD-
-SO MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS WILL BE ROSE-COLORED, AND WILL BE SPENT WITH MR. TANAKA!

WHAT'S UP WITH THE WEIRD NAMES?
potato chips
OH JEEZ. I WONDER IF THE METALHEADS ARE COMING OVER... AGAIN.
BRRRRR
IL IL IL
MONICA.
HELLO, IT'S ME, TEMPEST IMAMURA.
HIM.
NO NOT TODAY, RODRIGUEZ TANAKA'S COMING OVER.
WHAT? MR. TANAKA'S COMING OVER?!
ROD-RIGUEZ ?!
YEAH, WE'RE GOING TO HELP MY SISTER STUDY.
MAYBE NEXT TIME. CIAO.

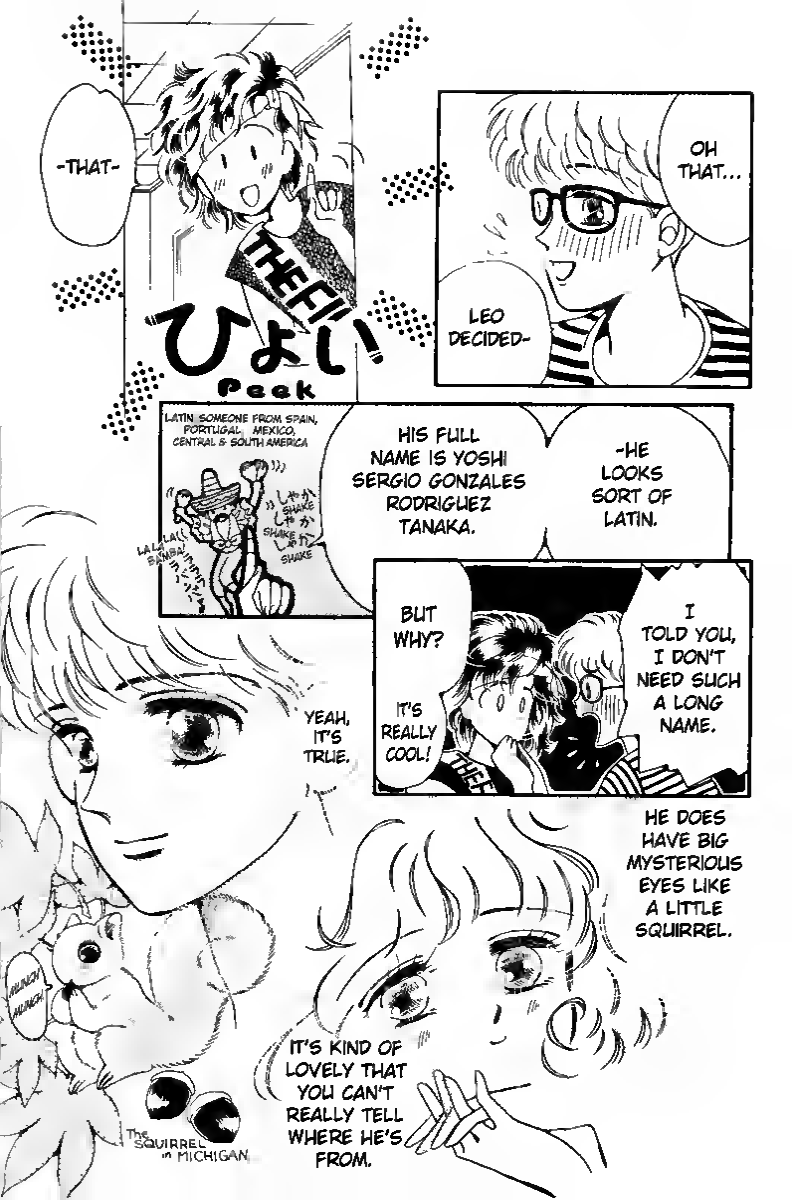
OH MY! I BETTER GET GOING.
OH, I FORGOT, TANAKA'S COMING OVER THIS AFTERNOON, SO STUDY HARD!
FIGHT
MR. TANAKA DOESN'T NEED ANY HELP.
BUT HE SAID "WE"...
ding-dong
ピンポーン
BUT IT'S SO BORING, I THOUGHT I'D SEW A BUNCH OF THINGS TO IT.
LOOK! I'VE WANTED THIS FOR SO LONG I FINALLY BOUGHT IT-
I DON'T GET YOUR STYLE.
WOW! IT'S BRIGHT RED. WHAT'S BORING ABOUT THAT?
...

UM, COULD YOU CHECK MY MATH?
WHAT SHOULD WE START WITH?
I'M JUST GOING TO SIT HERE AND SEW, SO ...STUDY HARD!
でぇぇ
THE
WHAT AN EYESORE, I WONDER HOW LONG HE'S GOING TO STAY HERE?
HE LOOKS GOOD WITH THAT PIN-CUSHION.
sew sew
ぬいぬい…
HE'S GOT SUCH BAD TASTE.
HE'S ALWAYS SEWING STUFF ON OR TEARING STUFF UP.

Ego's Sewing Kit
SEE, THIS HERE IS WRONG...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT, THANKS!
HUH?!
SEE.
知恵のあい
GETTING ALONG REALLY WELL
あい
どんっ
SHOVE
THE FOL
YOU NEED TO BE STRICTER WITH HER... SHE IS STUDYING FOR HER ENTRANCE EXAMS!
HA HA.. YOU'RE RIGHT!
...
SEW SEW

WAAA!
MANA! BANDAID!
IN THEIR OWN WORLD AGAIN.
GRR.
PRICK
OKAY.
leap
SHUT UP!
JEEZ! GET IT YOURSELF!
I WONDER IF MR. TANAKA-
-IS SEEING SOMEONE?
!!
CAN'T HE FIND A GIRLFRIEND WHO WILL SEW FOR HIM?
HE SAYS IT'LL DISAPPOINT A LOT OF GIRLS IF HE CHOOSES ONE.

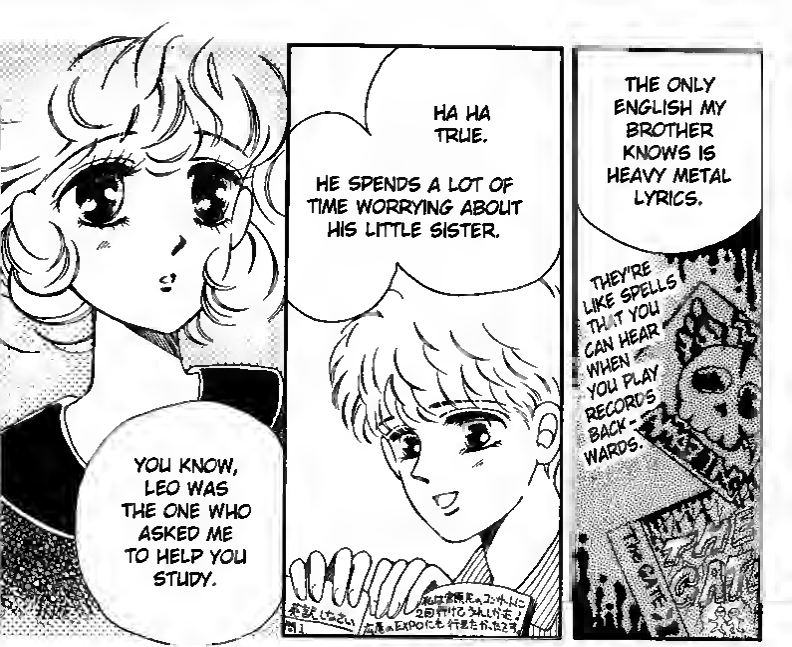
-IF MR. TANAKA HAS A GIRLFRIEND-
EVEN IF I GET INTO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL-
-MY ROSE COLORED WORLD WILL TURN GREY.
YEAH?
UM, MR. TANAKA...
IS YOUR NICKNAME RODRIGUEZ TANAKA?
UM, UH...
I CAN'T ASK THIS.
OH, WHAT AM I THINKING?


-THAT-
THE FIVE
ひよい
Peek
OH THAT...
LEO DECIDED-
LATIN: SOMEONE FROM SPAIN, PORTUGAL, MEXICO, CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA
LALA SHAKE LA LA SHAKE
HIS FULL NAME IS YOSHI SERGIO GONZALES RODRIGUEZ TANAKA.
-HE LOOKS SORT OF LATIN.
BUT WHY?
IT'S REALLY COOL!
I TOLD YOU, I DON'T NEED SUCH A LONG NAME.
YEAH, IT'S TRUE.
HE DOES HAVE BIG MYSTERIOUS EYES LIKE A LITTLE SQUIRREL.
MUNCH MUNCH
IT'S KIND OF LOVELY THAT YOU CAN'T REALLY TELL WHERE HE'S FROM.
THE SQUIRREL IN MICHIGAN

WORKING MOM
EE YOU LATER!
MANA, WILL YOU VACULUM YOUR BROTHER'S ROOM WHILE YOUR AT IT?
Vroom Vroom
COME ON, LET'S GO!
YEAH YEAH YEAH! HEY BABY!
IN A DIFFERENT WAY...
MY BROTHER'S ORIGINS ARE A MYSTERY TOO.
OH YUCK, HIS JEWELRY LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BITE ME IF I TOUCH IT.
OVER DRIVE
YOU'RE IN THE WAY, CAN YOU PLEASE LEAVE?
FINE, FINE!

HEY, WHO IS THIS GIRL?
PRETENDING TO BE A CELEBRITY
HE HAS LOTS OF PICTURES OF HER.
IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT THEY REALLY ARE CLOSE.
A PICTURE OF MR. TANAKA.
HEAVY METAL IN D-LAND W/ PETER PAN.
HEY, MY BROTHER-
-WITH SHORT HAIR.
HE LOOKS SO MUCH BETTER LIKE THIS
BUT SHE SEEMS SORT OF-
BUT I THINK MY BROTHER'S TYPE IS-
TOTALLY
-SOMEONE LIKE THIS.

WHERE'S LEO?
HE'S IN HIS ROOM ON THE PHONE WITH TEMPEST IMAMURA.
HE LOOOOVES TALKING ON THE PHONE.
-MORE SUITED FOR MR. TANAKA.
NO WAY, NO WAY!
OH, I DON'T THINK I CAN CONCENTRATE.
MUSIC FOR THIS ISSUE
READY STEADY GO
RUSH!!
SCRAMBLE
BY MIHARA
SLIPPERY WHEN WET
BON JOVI
WHENEVER YOU NEED SOMEBODY
RICK ASTLEY
LEO'S BETTER AT ENGLISH THAN I AM.
WE'RE STUDYING ENGLISH TODAY, RIGHT?
THIS DICTIONARY IS REALLY EASY TO USE.


YOU KNOW, LEO WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED ME TO HELP YOU STUDY.
HA HA TRUE.
HE SPENDS A LOT OF TIME WORRYING ABOUT HIS LITTLE SISTER.
THE ONLY ENGLISH MY BROTHER KNOWS IS HEAVY METAL LYRICS.
THEY'RE LIKE SPELLS THAT YOU CAN HEAR WHEN YOU PLAY RECORDS BACK-WARDS.

I DON'T HAVE A LITTLE SISTER SO I WAS ENVIOUS.
THIS IS MY LITTLE SISTER.
LUCKY!
SINCE WE WERE LITTLE, YOU WERE HIS PRECIOUS LITTLE SISTER.

MY BIG BROTHER !?
BEING WITH YOU LIKE THIS MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M YOUR BIG BROTHER TOO!
IT'S NICE!
EVEN IF I GET INTO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL-
-I'LL ONLY BE A LITTLE SISTER TO HIM.

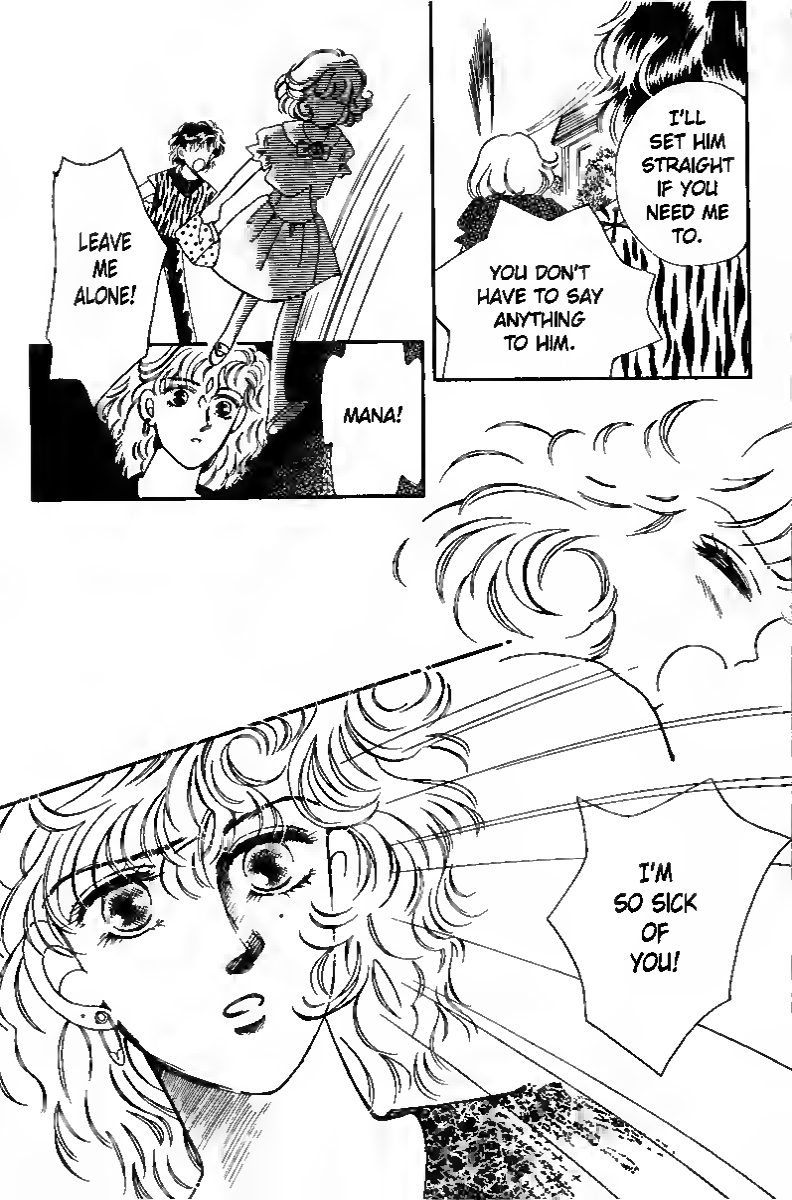
ONE BIG BROTHER IS PLENTY-
-I DON'T NEED TWO!
THE REASON I WANTED YOU TO HELP ME STUDY-
-WAS SO I COULD GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS YOU!

SO THEN, WHAT IS IT THAT YOU DIDN'T UNDER-STAND?!
WHERE WAS IT?
MANA
どん
PLOP
カ…ア
HH...
OKAY... AND YOU'RE FINE WITH THE GRAMMAR.
HA HA HA!
HEY, YOU DID IT PERFECTLY!
I GUESS THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY!
LATER!
WHAT SORT OF REACTION IS THAT?
STAFF
STAFF
CLICK
EEK!

HE LEFT.
HEY, WHERE'S YOSHI? I THOUGHT HE WAS HERE.
WHAT? ALREADY?
UH... I'M GOING TO GO GET SOME ICE CREAM.
YOU'RE COMING TOO!

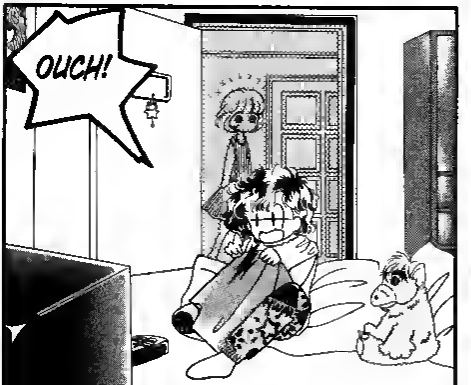
HEY, THAT GUY!!
MINT CHOCOLATE CHIP AND...
2
HE MUST BE HOT IN THOSE PANTS.
I WONDER IF THE GIRL HE'S WITH IS HIS GIRL-FRIEND?
METAL-HEADS EAT ICE CREAM TOO!
SHE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HIS TYPE.
I CAN'T SAY I'M HIS SISTER.
I WONDER IF HE BREATHES FIRE?
WOW!
HE'S WHAT YOU WOULD CALL A METALHEAD RIGHT?
KYAH! KYAH!
OH GOD, STOP, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
EX-CUSE ME.
START!
つかつか
PANIC PANIC
EEK!
THEY'RE REALLY EXCITED.
3

IS THAT GOOD?
CAN I HAVE WHAT SHE'S HAVING?
HE'S WEARING A SKULL RING, DID YOU SEE IT? HE'S SO WEIRD!
OH GOD...HOW EMBARRASSING!
MANA, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND YOSHI?
WAS HE MEAN TO YOU? DID HE HIT YOU OR PUNCH YOU OR SOMETHING?


LEAVE ME ALONE!
MANA!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING TO HIM.
I'LL SET HIM STRAIGHT IF YOU NEED ME TO.
I'M SO SICK OF YOU!

HEAVY METAL
BATTLE OF THE BANDS
WOW!
YAY!
YAY!

おじさまぁ～
CONCERT
JUDGE TOSHIRO OHI... WHAT DO YOU THINK?


OUCH!

aack!

YOUR BROTHER ASKED ME TO HELP YOU STUDY.
...
MAYBE I SAID TOO MUCH. I LASHED OUT AT HIM.
DAMN!
LEO'S Room
LEO.
KNOCK KNOCK
THANK YOU!
YAY!
...
HERE, BAND-AID.

MR. TANAKA HAS TO COME OVER ALL THE TIME.
I KIND OF FEEL BAD-
-IT MUST CUT INTO HIS DATING TIME.
HE'S NOT SEEING ANYONE.
HE'S A TOTAL NERD-
-OTHERWISE HE WOULDN'T HANG OUT WITH ME.
WHO IS THIS?
SHE'S IN ALL THESE PICTURES SO I THOUGHT SHE WAS MR. TANAKA'S GIRLFRIEND.
HUH?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER.
キャー
BLUSH
GRUMP
WHAT? THEN IS SHE LEO'S...
HE'S ALL RED.
MAYBE IT'S A ONE WAY CRUSH
NO WAY, SHE SEEMS SO QUIET.

YOUR TASTE IS AWFUL! IT'S EMBARRASSING TO BE YOUR SISTER!
GIMME!
I WILL BE YOUR STYLIST-
-FROM NOW ON!

EEK!
A FLOWER STORM!
MANA, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
EEK!
WHAT'S LEFT IS THE HAIR.
FLOWERS ARE WAY BETTER THAN SKULLS AND SNAKES.
EEK! I BET IT'S YOSHI!
ピンポーン
DING DONG
strip
ぱあっ
I CAN'T FACE HIM!
OH NO!

WE'LL USE THESE...
Written by George Lucas
featuring Val Kilmer
THE
DOT
AND
THE
LINE
A
ROMANCE
LOVE
STORY
OKAY...
HI. LET'S CONTINUE WITH OUR ENGLISH LESSON TODAY.
DON'T YOU LIKE MOVIES?

I LOVE THEM!

PRETENDING NOT TO NOTICE MY BROTHER.
WORRY
SNEAK
OR TRING TO
IGNORE

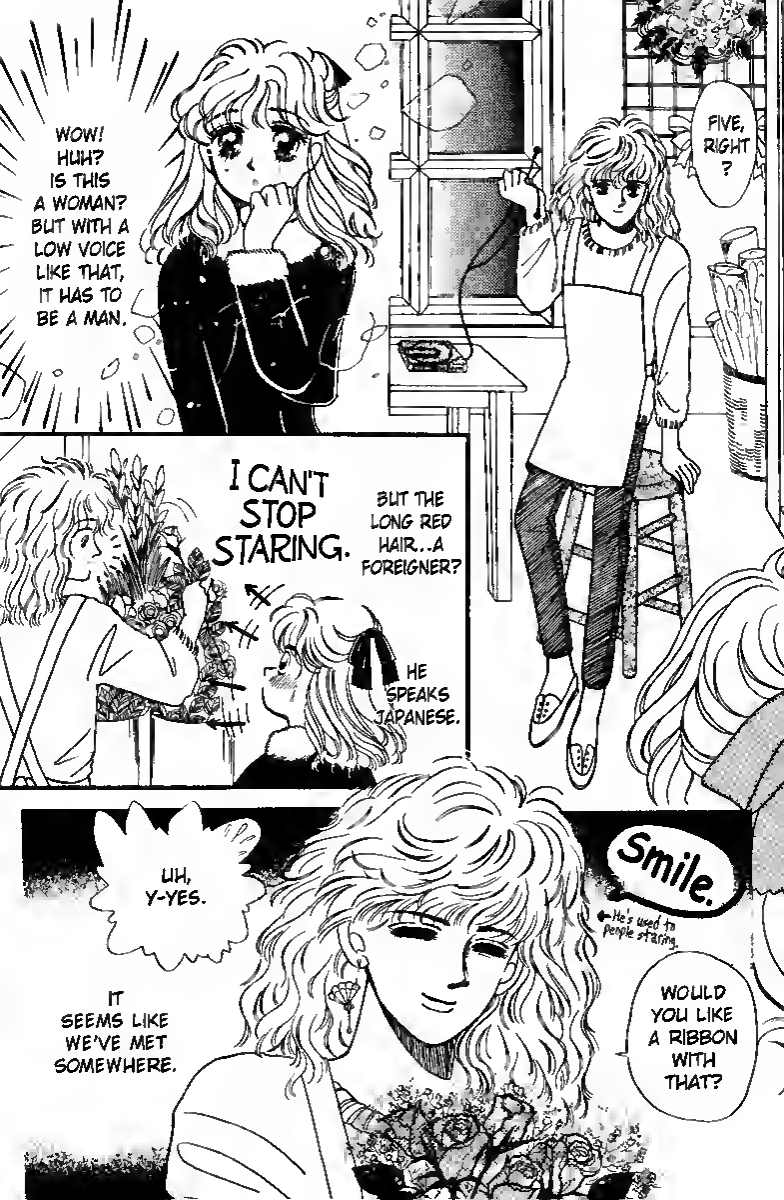
-AND HE DIDN'T TREAT ME LIKE A LITTLE SISTER.
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME WE WENT OUT-

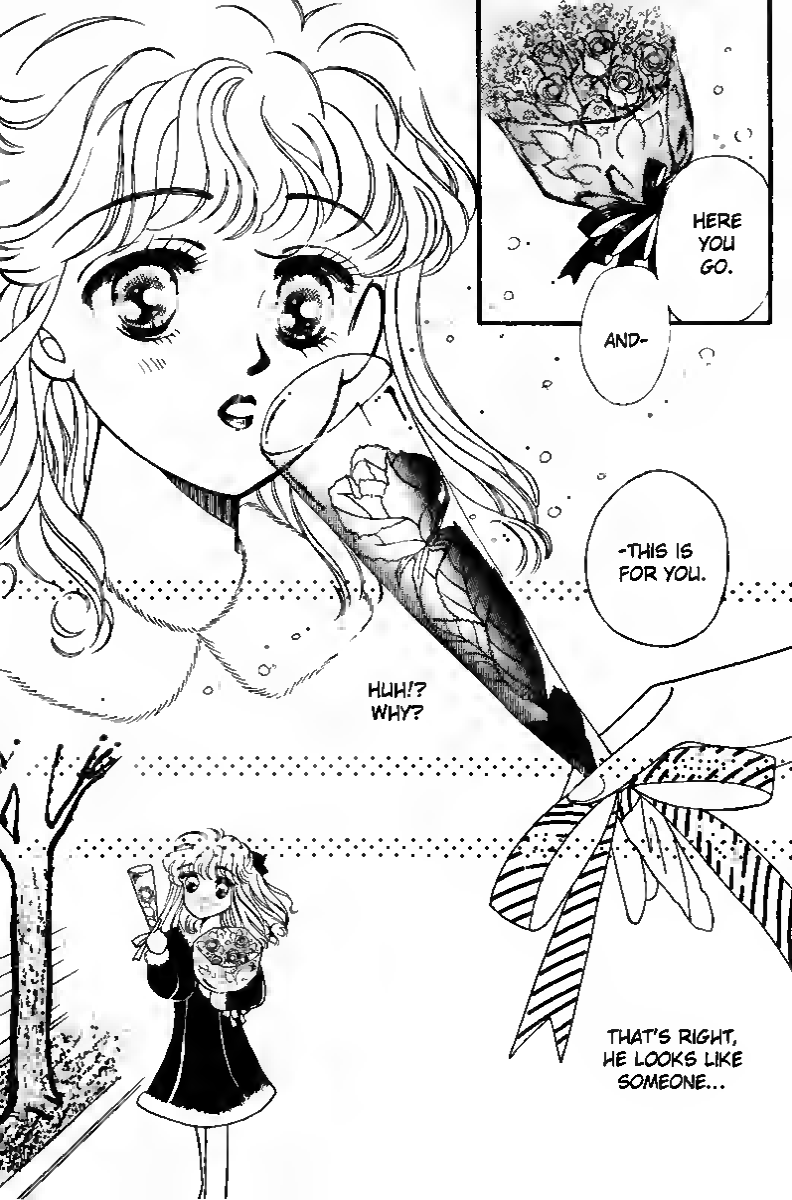
The End

花束(はなたば)をしょって…
BOUQUET
IN HAND

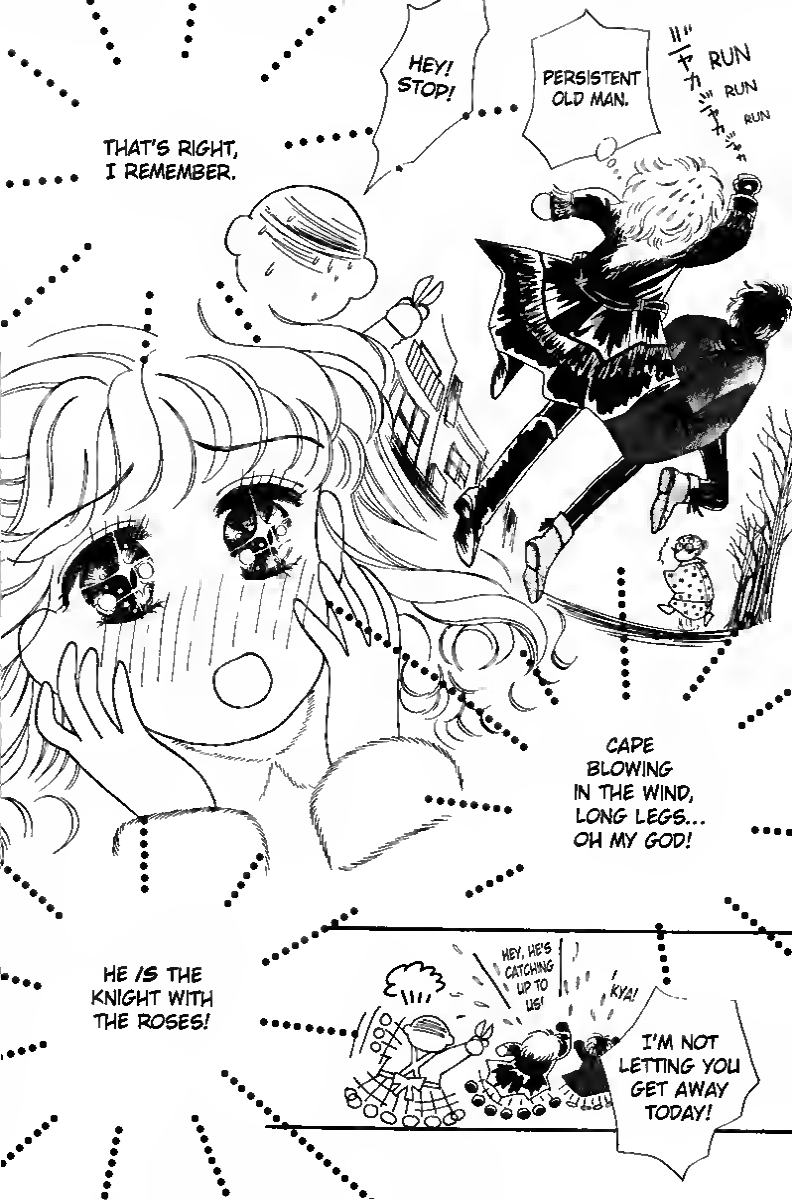
MY IDEAL MAN.
I SAW HIM ON A POSTER THAT CAME WITH MY MANGA.
HE'S A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR WITH A SAD SMILE.
WITH HAIR LIKE GOLDEN COTTON CANDY.
BENEATH HIS CAPE FLOWING IN THE WIND-
-ARE HIS LONG LEGS.
-CARRYING A BOUQUET OF ROSES.
HE'S RIDING ON HIS WHITE STALLION, WATCHING OVER HIS PRINCESS FROM THE SHADOWS-

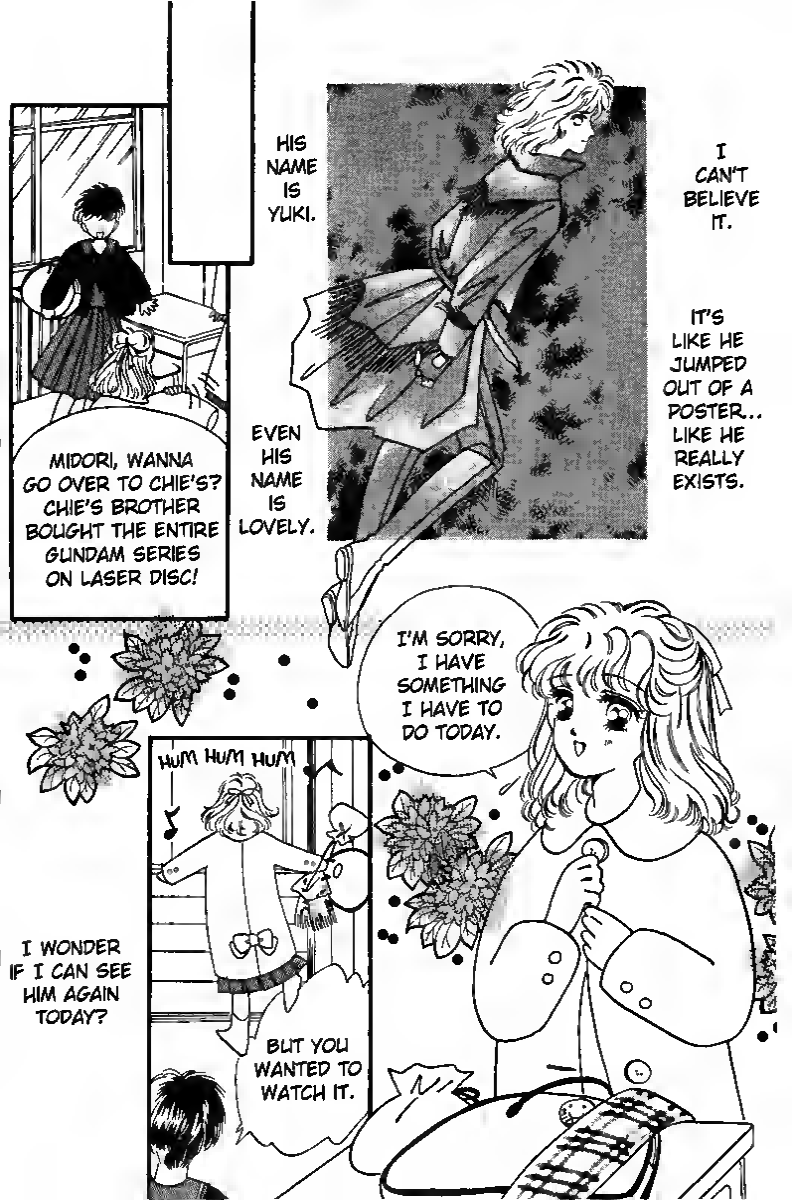
-THIS IS MY FANTASY.
I KNOW THAT HE COULD NEVER EXIST BUT-
MIDORI, COULD YOU GO TO THE FLOWER SHOP PLEASE?
EXCUSE ME, COULD I HAVE FIVE PINK ROSES-
-WITH SOME BABY'S BREATH PLEASE?
OKAY.


WOW! HUH? IS THIS A WOMAN? BUT WITH A LOW VOICE LIKE THAT, IT HAS TO BE A MAN.
FIVE, RIGHT ?
I CAN'T STOP STARING.
BUT THE LONG RED HAIR..A FOREIGNER?
HE SPEAKS JAPANESE.
UH, Y-YES.
IT SEEMS LIKE WE'VE MET SOMEWHERE.
Smile.
←He's used to people staring.
WOULD YOU LIKE A RIBBON WITH THAT?


HERE YOU GO.
AND-
-THIS IS FOR YOU.
HUH!? WHY?
THAT'S RIGHT, HE LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE...

STOP! YOU DELIN-QUENT!
FULL THROTTLE DASH!
TAKING OFF DURING YOUR SHIFT AGAIN!
HEY! YUKI!
RUN!!
RUN!
RUN!
RUN!
RUN!
!!


HEY! STOP!
PERSISTENT OLD MAN.
RUN RUN RUN
THAT'S RIGHT, I REMEMBER.
CAPE BLOWING IN THE WIND, LONG LEGS... OH MY GOD!
HE IS THE KNIGHT WITH THE ROSES!
HEY, HE'S CATCHING UP TO US!
KYA!
I'M NOT LETTING YOU GET AWAY TODAY!


MIDORI, WANNA GO OVER TO CHIE'S? CHIE'S BROTHER BOUGHT THE ENTIRE GUNDAM SERIES ON LASER DISC!
HIS NAME IS YUKI.
EVEN HIS NAME IS LOVELY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
IT'S LIKE HE JUMPED OUT OF A POSTER... LIKE HE REALLY EXISTS.
I'M SORRY, I HAVE SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO TODAY.
HUM HUM HUM
I WONDER IF I CAN SEE HIM AGAIN TODAY?
BUT YOU WANTED TO WATCH IT.

BOUQUET WAS WRITTEN TO COMMEMORATE EUROPE'S JAPAN TOUR. I WENT TO 3 SHOWS AND ENDED UP WITH A FEVER OF 103. I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE FOR JOEY.

TOMO-CHAN IN DOUBLE-DECKER FOR THE FIRST TIME

I FACED THE WALL SO MY EYES WOULDN'T MEET THE SHOPKEEPER'S.

MY FRIEND WHO WITCHES ME

SHOPKEEPER LADY

DOUBLE-DECKER

THAT WAS SO SCARY!

YOU'VE BEEN TO THE STATES BY YOURSELF? WHY?

DIDN'T MISS A BEAT WITH THE SHOPPING

MY HEART THROBS BECAUSE I LIKE IT SO MUCH!

TOMO-CHAN IN HARAJUKU

KICK

OH, SORRY!

A COLLISION WITH A METALHEAD IN A RUSH

ALL RIGHT

YOU'RE SO LUCKY TOMO-CHAN.

IT'S SO EMBARRASSING, DON'T SAY IT SO LOUD!

FLORIST

I WONDER IF HE'S GONE BACK TO HIS MANGA WORLD?

I'M NOT SURE SO-

BAAAD MEDICINE

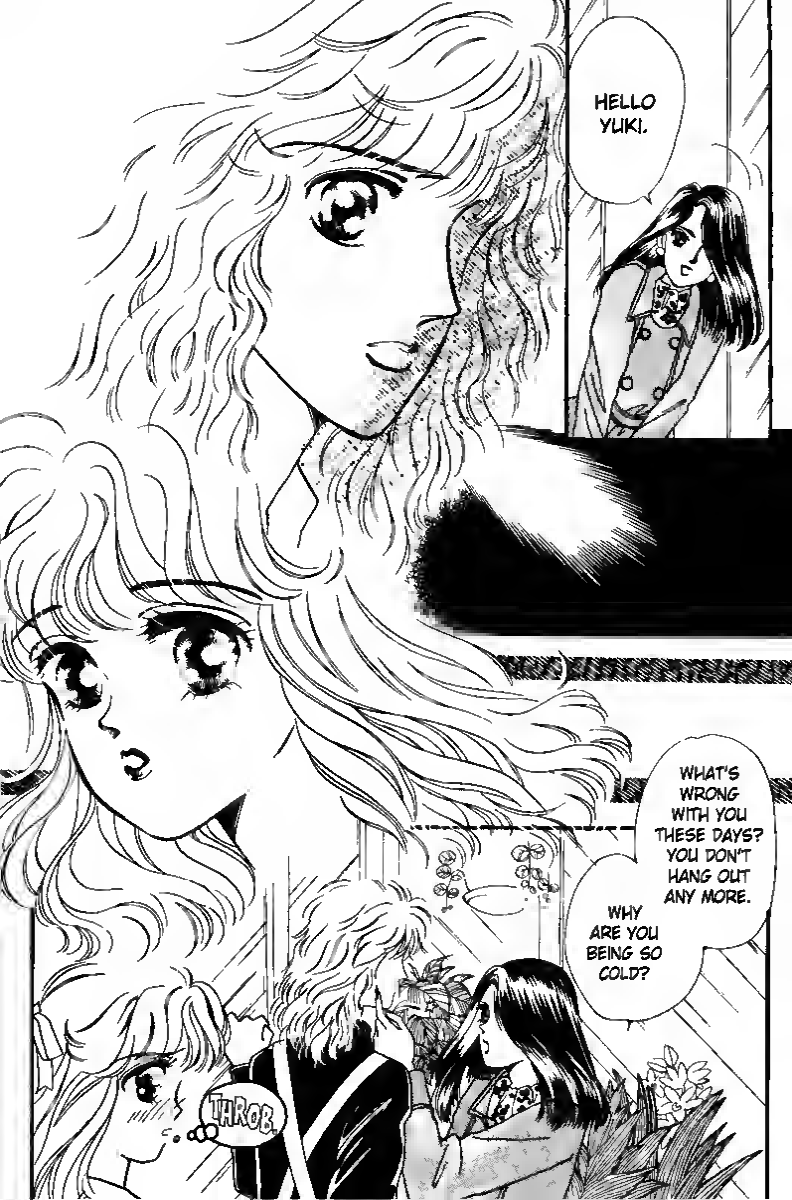
Drill Book

ENGLISH EXAM

NOTE METALHEADS NEED TO PASS THEIR ENGLISH EXAM

-I HAVE TO MAKE SURE.

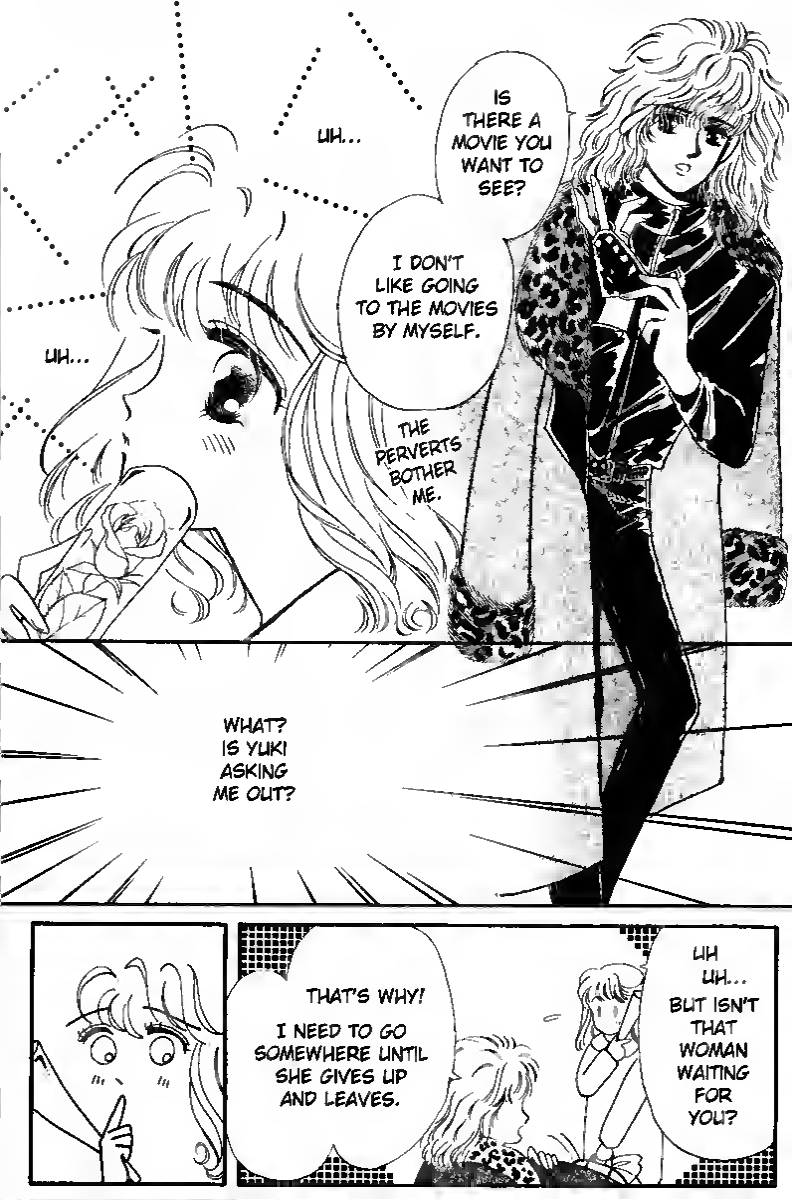
HUH? WHAT?!
UM, EXCUSE ME, COULD I GET SOME YELLOW ROSES?
PHEW, HE'S HERE.
KYA!
I WONDER WHAT HE'S LISTENING TO. SOUNDS LIKE A FOREIGN SONG. I NEVER LISTEN TO STUFF LIKE THIS.
I CAN HEAR IT WITHOUT THE HEADPHONES IN MY EARS!
Yeah
WOW
OH, I'M SORRY, YELLOW ROSES?
HE'S GOING TO GO DEAF.
UNPLUG
ZZZZ Zoom


HELLO YUKI.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU THESE DAYS? YOU DON'T HANG OUT ANY MORE.
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO COLD?
THROB

IT WAS MY BIRTHDAY YESTERDAY.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU TELL ME YOU FORGOT IT.
YOU TOLD ME YOU WOULD GIVE ME ALL THE PINK ROSES YOU HAD.
PINK ROSES ?
THIS IS FOR YOU.
COULD WE DISCUSS THIS OUTSIDE OF WORK? I HAVE A CUSTOMER.

YUKI...
IS SHE YUKI'S LOVER?
SHE LOOKS OLDER.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH WOMEN LIKE THAT.
C'MON CAPTAIN
DON'T MAKE ME WAIT!
FINE... I'LL BE IN THE CAFE NEXT DOOR.
HE'S GOING?
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WOULD GO OUT WITH A WOMAN LIKE HER.
MOM? DO YOU MIND IF I STEP OUT?

OH, LEO, COULD YOU COME OVER FOR A BIT?
C'MON CAPTAIN!
ピ・ポ・パ
BEEP PEEP BEEP
WHAT? YOU'RE BUSY?
ガチャ!!
SLAM
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS. C'MON, I NEED A LITTLE HELP! FINE. THANKS A LOT! CREEP!
I'M SORRY, WAS THAT RED ROSES?
NO, YELLOW. (IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER)
DON'T GO.
HEY, ARE YOU FREE?


UH...
IS THERE A MOVIE YOU WANT TO SEE?
I DON'T LIKE GOING TO THE MOVIES BY MYSELF.
UH...
THE PERVERTS BOTHER ME.
WHAT? IS YUKI ASKING ME OUT?
UH UH... BUT ISN'T THAT WOMAN WAITING FOR YOU?
THAT'S WHY! I NEED TO GO SOMEWHERE UNTIL SHE GIVES UP AND LEAVES.

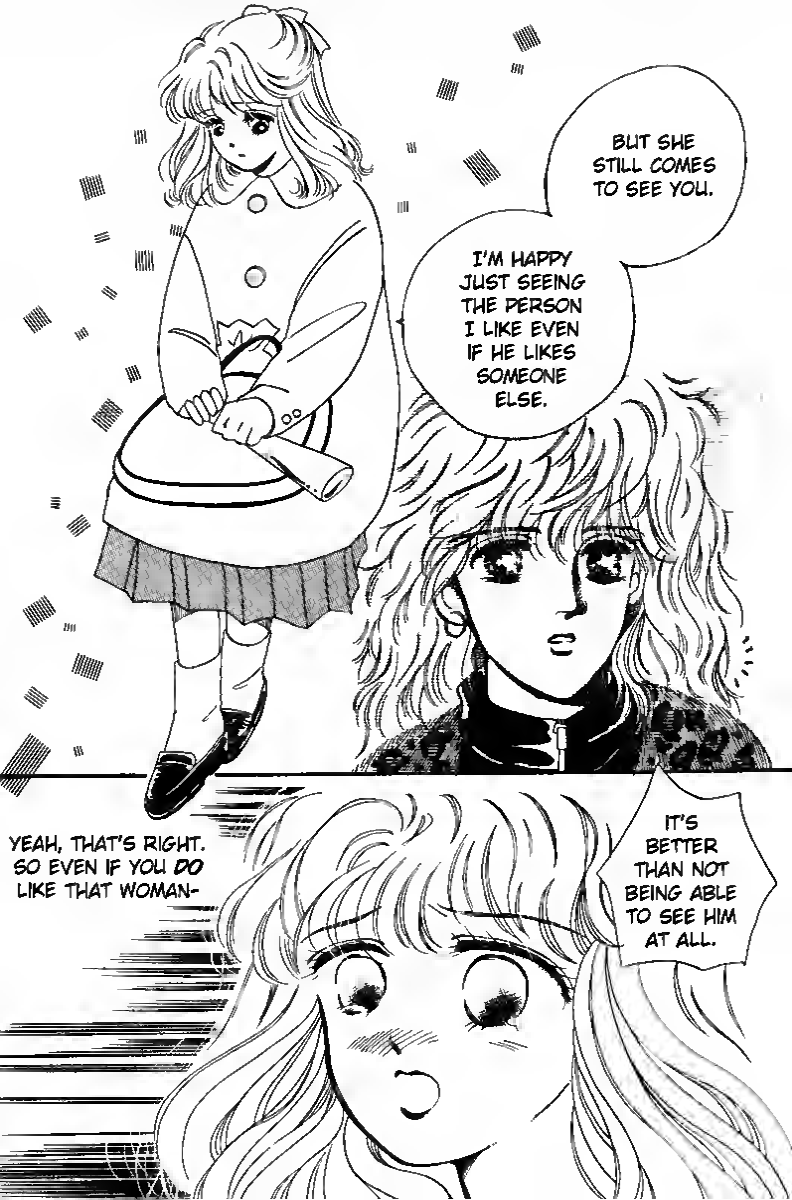
UH...
OH, I GUESS YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO JUST GO ALONG WITH A GUY LIKE ME.
RUSH RUSH
せかせか
HE'S NOT GOING TO HER.
I GUESS I'LL JUST FOLLOW HIM.
スタスタ
Scuttle Scuttle
OH NO, HE'S GOING. I'M SUCH AN IDIOT! AFTER HE ASKED ME OUT.
JINGLE JINGLE JINGLE
ジャンジャン
(NOTE) THE SOUND OF METAL CLANKING AS A METALHEAD WALKS
GULP... A GUY!?
SURE, YOUR TREAT, RIGHT?
HEY THERE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO FOR A CUP OF TEA?
IMAGINE RUNNING AWAY AFTER DISCOVERING I'M A GUY
I'M SO GLAD I'M THE HEIR TO A FLOWER SHOP
FAINT
そそくさ
NO DECENCY
SALARYMEN THESE DAYS MUST BE SO STRESSED OUT!
COMMON TYPE IN MISSOURI

OH NO. I'M NOT GOOD AT THIS SORT OF THING...
EEK, I'M SCARED!
HEY, YOU'RE FREE, RIGHT? ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?
HEY YOU!
SHE'S WITH ME!
GRAB.
OH, SHE'S WITH YOU, MR. SIR.. METALHEAD I'M SO SORRY
SIR METAL HEAD?

ARE YOU OKAY? THERE ARE LOTS OF CREEPS AROUND HERE.
HE PROTECTED ME!
HE REALLY IS LIKE A KNIGHT.
OKAY THEN. BE CARE-FUL.
OH, HE'S LEAVING AGAIN.
WOW
GRAB
ガシッ

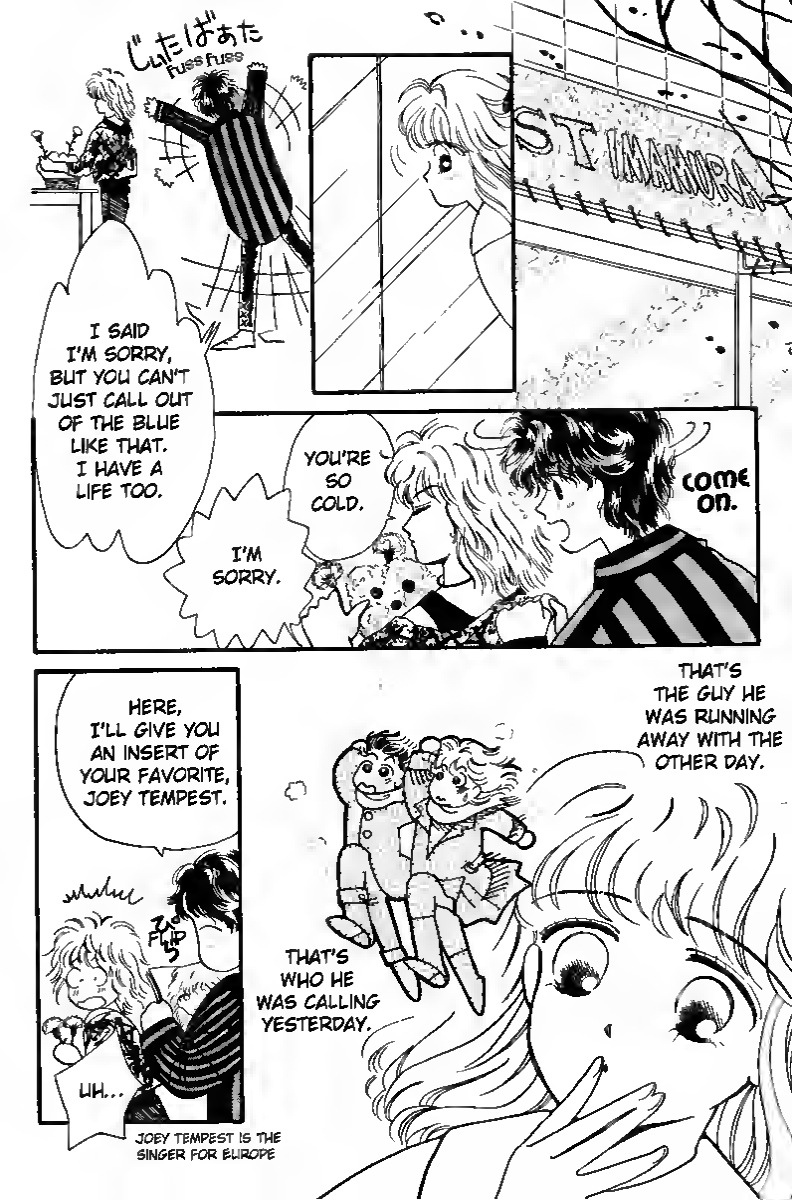
BEETLEJUICE
now playing
Eddie Murphy in
Coming to America
Theater 1
CINE SANSHI
UM, THAT MOVIE, OVER THERE.
I WANT TO-
-SEE IT.
WAS THAT WOMAN YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
THAT WAS GOOD.
...
I THOUGHT SO-
-BUT SHE HAS ANOTHER MAN.

I WAS JUST A PLAYTHING FOR HER.
I GUESS I WAS JUST ANOTHER ONE OF HER ACCESS-ORIES.
I'M SUCH A CHILD. I WAS REALLY INTO HER.
I SHOULDN'T SEE HER ANYMORE-
-BUT I JUST CAN'T SAY GOOD-BYE.
POOR YUKI.
SO THE PINK ROSE HE GAVE ME-
-WERE FEELINGS HE COULDN'T EXPRESS TO HER.


BUT SHE STILL COMES TO SEE YOU.
I'M HAPPY JUST SEEING THE PERSON I LIKE EVEN IF HE LIKES SOMEONE ELSE.
IT'S BETTER THAN NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM AT ALL.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. SO EVEN IF YOU DO LIKE THAT WOMAN-

-I WOULD STILL COME.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO CRY.
THERE THERE.
WHY!? WHY!?
DON'T CRY ANY MORE. DON'T CRY.
IT'S OKAY.
THERE... THERE.
B-BUT...

THE WORDS "DON'T CRY" MAKE ME CRY EVEN MORE.
YUKI DOESN'T KNOW-
OH NO!!!
WAH!! どっぴゃー
BURST OF TEARS !!
-HE LOOKS TOTALLY LIKE A BAD GUY MAKING AN INNOCENT GIRL CRY.
あーはずかしー SO EMBARRASSING
SNIFFLE
BUT BECAUS OF THA
-I'VE GOT TO HAVE HIM WALK ME HOME SHELTERED BY HIS CAPE-COAT.
OH, THAT WAS SUCH A SAD MOVIE!


じゃばあた
Fuss Fuss
I SAID I'M SORRY, BUT YOU CAN'T JUST CALL OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THAT. I HAVE A LIFE TOO.
YOU'RE SO COLD.
I'M SORRY.
COME ON.
HERE, I'LL GIVE YOU AN INSERT OF YOUR FAVORITE, JOEY TEMPEST.
ZIP
UH...
JOEY TEMPEST IS THE SINGER FOR EUROPE
THAT'S WHO HE WAS CALLING YESTERDAY.
THAT'S THE GUY HE WAS RUNNING AWAY WITH THE OTHER DAY.

HELLO, TEMPEST IMAMURA HERE.
YOU CAN'T BRIBE ME.
COME ON, TEMPEST IMAMURA, FORGIVE ME.
PURE ROCK
purr purr
RING RING RING
SEE, SEE.
...
SORRY, I MEAN, FLORIST IMAMURA.
HA HA HA
IDIOT!
YOU IDIOT!
HE'S MAD, BUT HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN!
GIGGLE.

I'M SORRY, YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT, DID YOU?
HE'S A TOTAL IDIOT.
HEY, WHO ARE YOU CALLING AN IDIOT? I'M OLDER THAN YOU.
WELCOME... OH, IT'S YOU FROM YESTERDAY.
I'M GLAD HE LOOKS BETTER THAN HE DID YESTERDAY.
I SEE. HERE, CAN YOU HELP ME?
HUH?
ARE YOU FRIENDS?
シャッ
WHAT CAN I GET FOR YOU TODAY?
UM, A PINK ROSE.
FOR WHAT?
YOU ARE SO UNPREDICTABLE.
LEO...
draw
かきかき
I'M AN ART STUDENT, AND THIS IS A SPELL.
HEY!

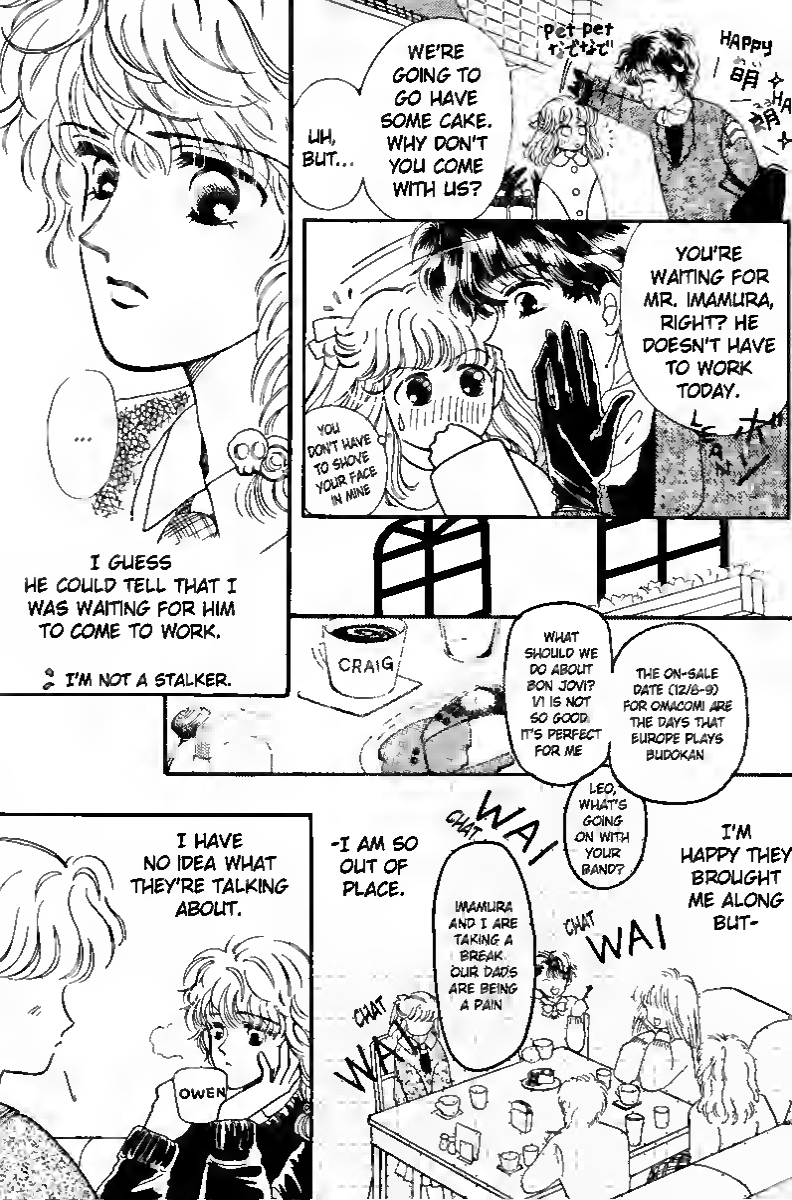
IT'S A SPELL THAT WILL HELP YOU BREAK UP WITH NASTY WOMEN.
COME ON, YOU CAN PAINT THE LEAVES.
HIS FRIENDS ARE WORRIED TOO.
I'm not superstitious
THIS IS STUPID. I DON'T BELIEVE IN THIS STUFF.
YOU'RE SO NOT CUTE. HEH.
WE WANT HIM TO CHEER UP!
HEY HEY!
PAINT PAINT.

HEY, DO YOU LIKE IMAMURA?
H-HE'S SHARP.
N-NO. I MEAN THE TYPE OF GIRL MR. IMAMURA LIKES IS MUCH MORE MATURE THAN I AM.
AND THEY WEAR SEXY CLOTHES AND...
COLLEGE GIRLS LIKE THAT ARE ATTRACTIVE-
BUT-
-SMALL QUIET CRYBABY MOUSY LITTLE GIRLS WITH THICK ANKLES-
-WHO HAVE NO SEX APPEAL -
-ARE KIND OF CUTE TOO.
LITTLE GIRL
NO SEX APPEAL
MOUSY
THICK ANKLES
CRYBABY
WHO COULD HE BE TALKING ABOUT?!

I'M GLAD THAT HIS FRIEND WOULD THINK THAT BUT...

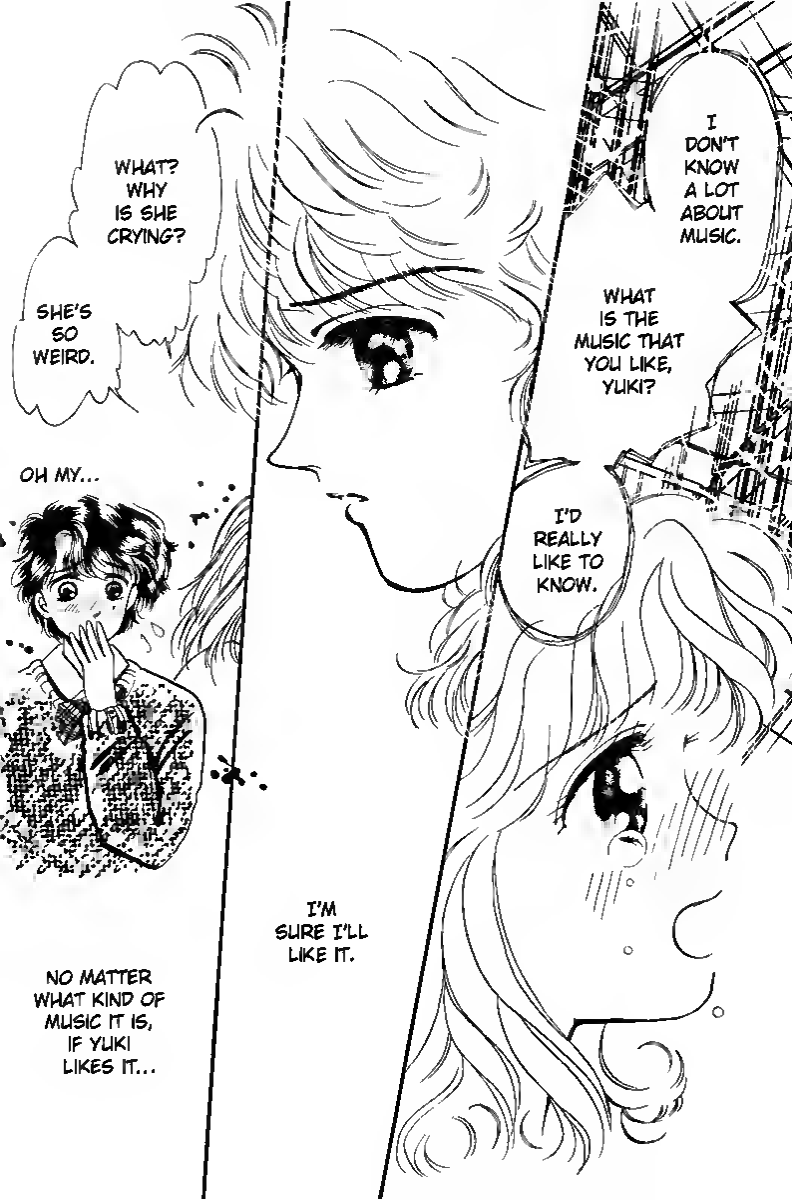
チャヤチャヤ
CHATTER CHATTER
HEY! DID YOU HEAR THAT TANIGUCHI FROM A CLASS WENT TO A METAL SHOP IN OGAWACHO AND WAS SO SCARED THAT SHE ALMOST STARTED CRYING?
SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE THEN
SEE YA.
BYE.

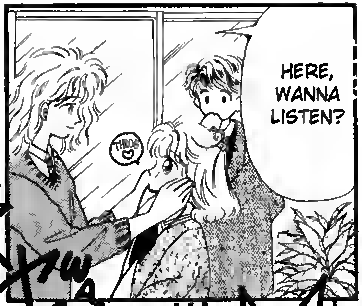
HEY!
♡
*RAIDED WHEN AT SCHOOL
THE GIRLS THAT SURROUND YUKI ARE SO DIFFERENT THAN I AM.
WHO'S THIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BRAT?
SHE'S OUR FRIEND.
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BRAT
MIDORI
HI THERE ...UM..
...THAT'S RIGHT, MIDORI!


Pet pet
Happy
WE'RE GOING TO GO HAVE SOME CAKE. WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US?
UH, BUT...
YOU'RE WAITING FOR MR. IMAMURA, RIGHT? HE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORK TODAY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOVE YOUR FACE IN MINE
...
I GUESS HE COULD TELL THAT I WAS WAITING FOR HIM TO COME TO WORK.
I'M NOT A STALKER.
CRAIG
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT BON JOVI? 1/1 IS NOT SO GOOD. IT'S PERFECT FOR ME
THE ON-SALE DATE (12/8-9) FOR OMACOMI ARE THE DAYS THAT EUROPE PLAYS BUDOKAN
LEO, WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOUR BAND?
I'M HAPPY THEY BROUGHT ME ALONG BUT-
-I AM SO OUT OF PLACE.
IMAMURA AND I ARE TAKING A BREAK. OUR DADS ARE BEING A PAIN
CHAT WAI
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT.
OWEN

I LIKE PRETTY MUCH ALL JAPANESE IDOLS AND I ALSO LIKE ANIME SO THOSE KIND OF RECORDS...
AND HE SAID IT SO SWEETLY!
MIDORI!! YUKI SAID MY NAME FOR THE FIRST TIME!
MIDORI, WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DO YOU LISTEN TO?
YEAH, YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE THE TYPE TO LISTEN TO METAL OR HARD ROCK.
HOW CUTE.
snicker
ANIME! HOW CHILDISH!
ME- METAL? WHAT'S THAT?
WHY DO I HAVE TO SIT HERE AND HAVE THESE PEOPLE MAKE FUN OF ME?

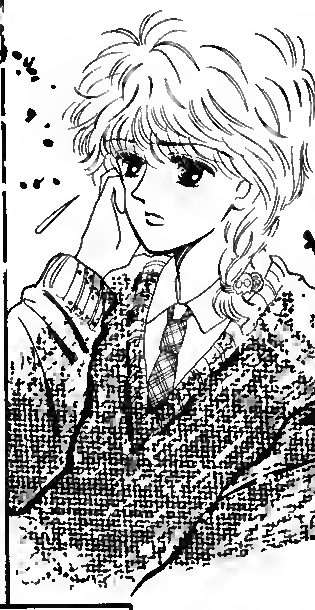
silence
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. HOW IS IT THAT THIS GIRL IS FRIENDS WITH IMAMURA THE METALHEAD?
GAWD!
UH, YOU SEE...
!?
IS IT THAT BAD THAT I DON'T KNOW?
GULP.
IS IT THAT FUNNY THAT I DON'T KNOW?
WH-WHAT IS THAT?
WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME?

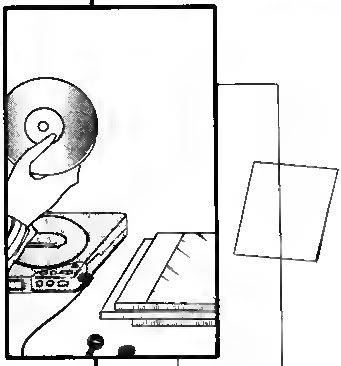

I DON'T KNOW A LOT ABOUT MUSIC.
WHAT IS THE MUSIC THAT YOU LIKE, YUKI?
I'D REALLY LIKE TO KNOW.
I'M SURE I'LL LIKE IT.
WHAT? WHY IS SHE CRYING?
SHE'S SO WEIRD.
OH MY...
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF MUSIC IT IS, IF YUKI LIKES IT...

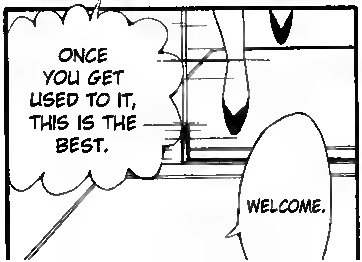

HERE, WANNA LISTEN?

KYA!

WHAT IS THIS NOISE!?
BUT I WILL STICK IT OUT.
JUST LISTENING TO THIS IS A WORK OUT!
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
ギャハハ






ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT, THIS IS THE BEST.
WELCOME.

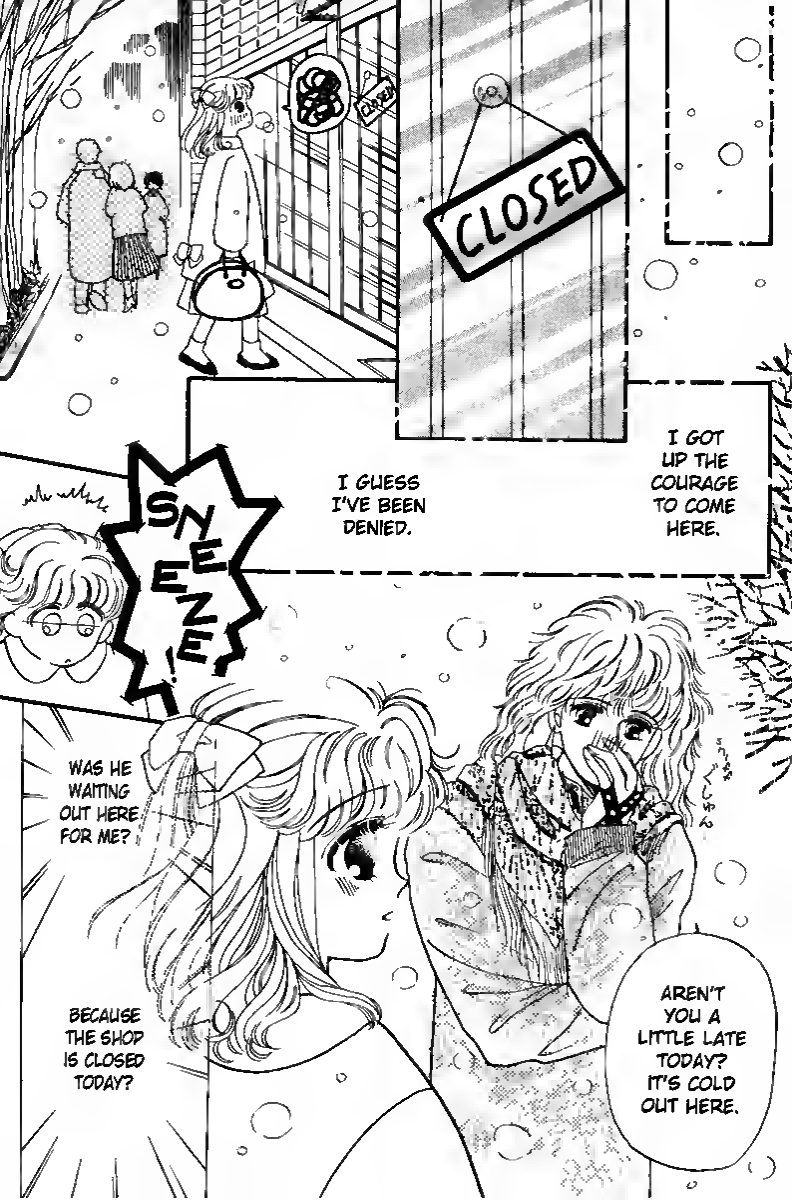
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING THE OTHER DAY, YUKI?
MIDORI, IT'S GETTING LATE, WANT ME TO WALK YOU HOME?
WELL, I'M LEAVING.
STAY.

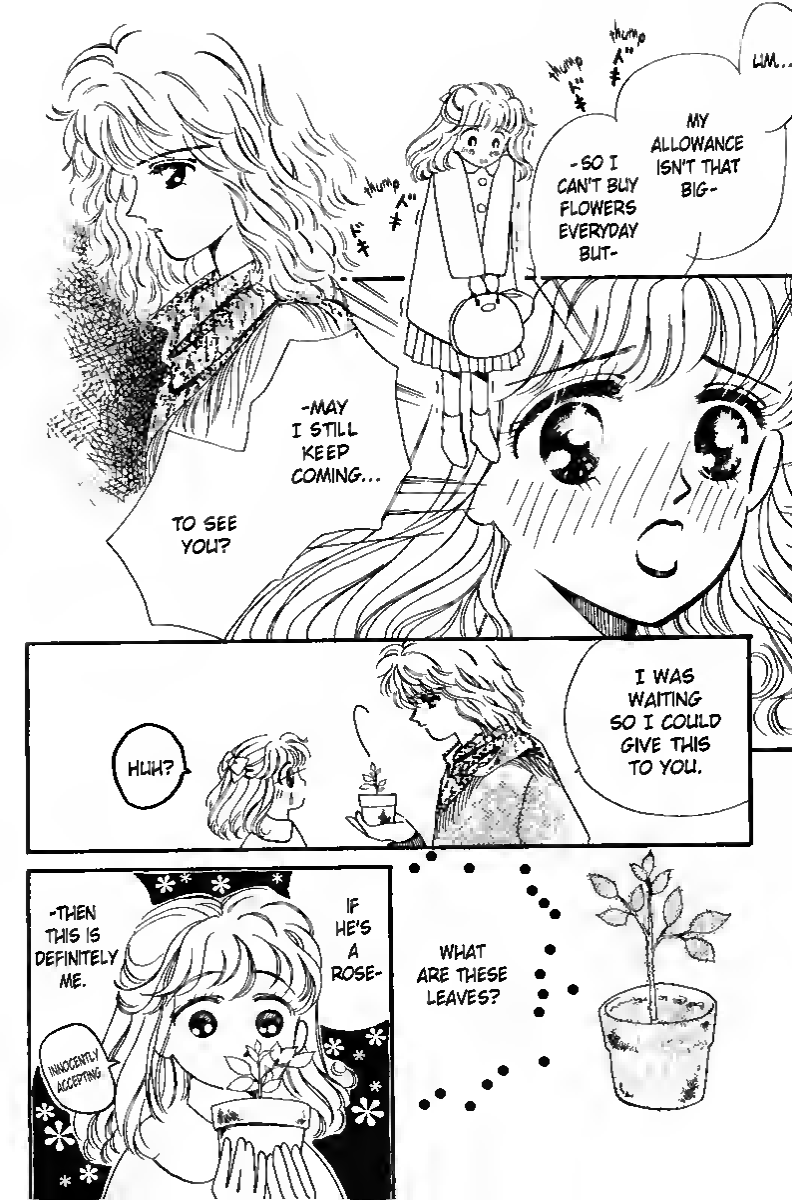
THERE'S SOMEONE WHO CAN LOVE ME MORE HONESTLY.
GOOD-BYE!
YUKI!?
I'M NOT LETTING YOU MESS WITH ME ANY MORE.

GREAT! YOU SAID IT! THAT WAS SO GOOD!
LET ME HUG YOU AS A REWARD!
...
はぐ
HUG

THANK GOD.
AND I SAID IT IN FRONT OF YOU SO I CAN'T TAKE IT BACK EITHER.
IF I DID SOMETHING LIKE THAT I'D NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT
HUH?
I WAS GOING TO WALK MIDORI HOME.
SHE'S YOUR TYPE, ISN'T SHE, LEO?
YOU COULD TELL? IT'S TRUE
SHE BRINGS OUT THE BIG BROTHER IN ME

I COULDN'T BEAR TO WATCH THAT.
I'M GLAD THAT HE SAID GOODBYE TO HER-
-BUT YUKI STILL LIKES HER.
-EVEN IF IT MAKES ME SAD.
IT'S ENOUGH FOR ME TO JUST BE ABLE TO SEE HIM-
AND IF YUKI UNDER-STANDS...

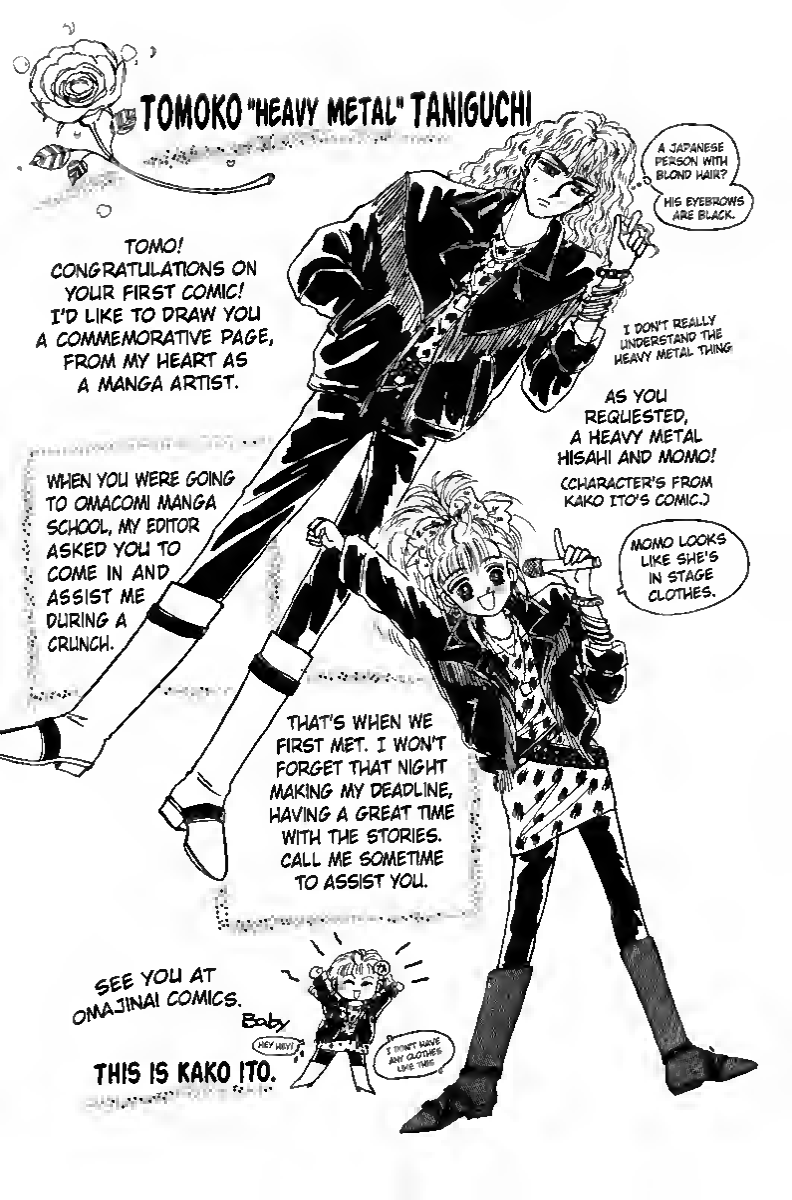

CLOSED
I GOT UP THE COURAGE TO COME HERE.
I GUESS I'VE BEEN DENIED.
SNEEN!
WAS HE WAITING OUT HERE FOR ME?
BECAUSE THE SHOP IS CLOSED TODAY?
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE LATE TODAY? IT'S COLD OUT HERE.


UM...
MY ALLOWANCE ISN'T THAT BIG-
-SO I CAN'T BUY FLOWERS EVERYDAY BUT-
thump
thump
thump
-MAY I STILL KEEP COMING...
TO SEE YOU?
I WAS WAITING SO I COULD GIVE THIS TO YOU.
HUH?
WHAT ARE THESE LEAVES?
IF HE'S A ROSE-
-THEN THIS IS DEFINITELY ME.
INNOCENTLY ACCEPTING

SHAKE HANDS.
?
FLOAT
HUH?
I DON'T THINK I'LL FORGET ABOUT HER FOR A WHILE.

-I WILL HAVE COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT HER.
PUFF
はぁ
BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS.
SO MAYBE BY THE TIME THIS LITTLE TREE BLOSSOMS-
THAT... THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN.
-OR MAYBE YOU WILL HAVE FOUND SOMEONE ELSE.
BY THEN YOU MIGHT BE MORE MY TYPE-

I'M GOING TO LIKE YOU FOREVER.
AND I PROMISE TO MAKE THIS TREE BLOSSOM.
THEN WILL YOU REALLY BE-
-MY KNIGHT WITH ROSES.
The End
TOMOKO TANIGUCHI
Nov 14, 1978 No 5


TOMOKO "HEAVY METAL" TANIGUCHI
A JAPANESE PERSON WITH BLOND HAIR?
HIS EYEBROWS ARE BLACK.
TOMO! CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST COMIC! I'D LIKE TO DRAW YOU A COMMEMORATIVE PAGE, FROM MY HEART AS A MANGA ARTIST.
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE HEAVY METAL THING
AS YOU REQUESTED, A HEAVY METAL HISAHI AND MOMO!
(CHARACTER'S FROM KAKO ITO'S COMIC.)
WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO OMACOMI MANGA SCHOOL, MY EDITOR ASKED YOU TO COME IN AND ASSIST ME DURING A CRUNCH.
MOMO LOOKS LIKE SHE'S IN STAGE CLOTHES.
THAT'S WHEN WE FIRST MET. I WON'T FORGET THAT NIGHT MAKING MY DEADLINE, HAVING A GREAT TIME WITH THE STORIES. CALL ME SOMETIME TO ASSIST YOU.
SEE YOU AT OMAJINAI COMICS.
Baby
HEY HEY!
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CLOTHES LIKE THIS
THIS IS KAKO ITO.

WONDERFUL CRUSH
すてきに片想い
Tulip (Yellow)
Hopeless
Love

THERE THEY ARE!
GO MOURI!
HEY!
OH, THAT GLISTENING SWEAT IS SO SEXY!
blush
SO-RRY.
ぽこん
KUNK
OUCH!

HEY, MOURI.
YOU'RE A LOSER FOR BEING DISTRACTED BY GIRLS.
HEY, MIYAHARA, STOP READING YOUR BOOKS UNDER THE BLUE SKY.
SO-RRY, MR. YOUTHFUL ENTHUSIASM!
WHAT! YOU GLOOMY JERK!
BOYS SHOULD BE WORKING UP A SWEAT ON DAYS LIKE THIS.
DIDN'T YOU HAVE AN ENGLISH ESSAY TO WRITE, MISS YURI?
WHY DON'T YOU HURRY HOME AND GET WORKING ON IT?

GOOD-BYE.
WHO THE HELL?
YEAH, WELL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING READING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
BEEEP!
OH, MR. MIYAHARA, GOOD-BYE!
YAY! YOU DID IT!
KYAH! I SPOKE TO HIM!
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT MR. GLOOMY HERE?
run run run
EACH TO HER OWN, I GUESS.
BUT FOR ME-
-IT'S DIFFER-ENT.

HEY, LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER!
I WANT TO GO TOO. I HAVEN'T BEEN IN AGES.
OH, MOURI, YOUR NOTEBOOK IS SO CUTE.
IT'S A PRESENT FROM DISNEYLAND FROM MY SISTER.
UH?
ALL OF US?!
みんな?!
OKAY.
YEAH, SURE.
WOW, SANAE IS SO OUTGOING!
YEAH. LET'S GO!

REALLY!?
I WONDER IF...
The Far Side by Gary Larson
HELL'S PUPPIES
WOW, MOURI LOOKS REALLY HAPPY.
I THINK I'M GOING TO GO FOR IT AND TELL HIM HOW I FEEL!
-YOU'VE GOT GUTS.
WOW SANAE-
HELLO, WELCOME

I'VE HAD A CRUSH ON HIM SINCE I STARTED HIGH SCHOOL.
IT'S TAKEN ME A YEAR TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO HIM.
I THINK I CAN DO IT NOW.
DOES YURI LIKE MOURI TOO?
-I THINK MOURI PROBABLY LIKES YOU TOO, SANAE.
YEAH... WELL-
I'M SURE IT WILL WORK OUT. DO IT FOR ME TOO.

Stand
タン!!
OH, I FORGOT SOMETHING. YOU CAN LEAVE WITHOUT ME.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
gulp!
OPEN
ガラッ

YU...
RUSH RUSH RUSH
ガラ
OPEN
OH, DID YOU HAVE A BOARD MEETING?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT. I FORGOT SOMETHING.
KLUNK
コトン...
WHAT'S WRONG? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NO- NOTHING.
IS IT ABOUT MOURI?
WHY WOULD YOU?

SLAP ME IF YOU NEED TO.

HAHAHA!
HIT ME AS MANY TIMES AS YOU LIKE, RIGHT HERE.
MY FIRST-
-KISS.

HOW UNEVENTFUL.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!!!
YOU-
-PERVERT !!!
smother
THAT'S A LITTLE LOUD!
YURI, YOU ONLY HAVE EYES FOR HIM SO I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE BUT-
-YOU SEE, I HAVE A CRUSH ON YOU.

WHAT!?
IT BUGS THE HELL OUT OF ME-
-BUT I CAN'T HELP IT.
TH-THAT'S WEIRD...
I COULD UNDERSTAND IF YOU WERE TRYING TO GET IN THE WAY.
-I'LL HELP YOU OUT.
BUT THAT JUST PUT AN END TO THAT SO-
IF YOU WANT A PICTURE OF MOURI, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE.
IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW, I'LL ASK.

WELL, IT'S REALLY CUTE THAT YOU ARE -
-SO INTO MOURI.
IT'S KIND OF FUN TO WATCH.
BLUSH
I-I'M LEAVING.
GRAB RUSH
THIS IS EMBARRASSING.
!!
YOU ARE NOT FORGIVEN.
MY PRECIOUS FIRST KISS.
TAKE CARE.
YES. YES.

MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO EXPLODE.
ONE SHOCK AFTER ANOTHER.
Kyun
Kyun
JUST LIKE MIYAHARA SAYS:
HEY MIYAHARA, ARE YOU FREE ON SUNDAY?
I NEVER EVEN NOTICED MIYAHARA.
ALL I SEE IS MOURI.
NEXT SUNDAY IS DISNEYLAND.
Pat Pat

BOTH MOURI AND MIYAHARA SAID THAT DAY WORKS FOR THEM.
HOW ABOUT YOU, YURI?
MIYAHARA?
UM... YEAH.
HE'S COMING TOO.
YEAH, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO LET MOURI AND SANAE GO ALONE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY ARE GOOD FRIENDS.
I WONDER IF OPPOSITES WORK.
GLOOMY AND BRIGHT.
WHAT? DON'T GO TO DISNEYLAND?
WELL, I THOUGHT THAT MOURI LIKED SANAE.
I DON'T LIKE THIS SORT OF THING.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WOOSH
I KNOW THAT YOU LIKE HIM.

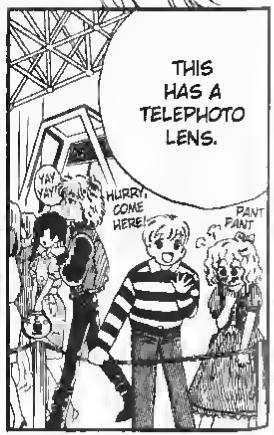
BUT THAT'S NO REASON-
-FOR ME TO CHANGE HOW I FEEL.
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
HELLO MIYAHARA!
IT'S MIYAHARA!
I'M GLOOMY AND NOT VERY NICE.
AND I'M COCKY.
KYA!
HELLO.

LOOK!
ROAR!
SHUUU
YAY!
PROOOAAARR!!
WE HAVE TO LINE UP FOR SPACE MOUNTAIN AND BIG THUNDER FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
IT'S GOING TO GET CROWDED!

I'LL TAKE A PICTURE OF THE THREE OF YOU.
EHEE!
MOURI IS SO CAREFREE, LIKE A CHILD.

OH, SORRY.
HEY, JEEZ.

I CAN PRETEND TO TAKE A PICTURE OF THE THREE OF THEM, BUT ONLY TAKE THE TWO OF THEM.
IT'S SO DARK. A PLAN...


THIS HAS A TELEPHOTO LENS.
YAY! YAY!
HURRY, COME HERE!
PANT PANT

LET'S GO TO DISNEYLAND. I'M SURE IT WILL BE FUN, I'M SURE!
LIFT

I KNOW I'M RIGHT ABOUT YOU LIKING HIM.
THERE'S NO NEED TO TRY SO HARD.

YAY! I'M SO GLAD IT'S SUNNY!
Tokyo Disne
WELCO

I'M SO GLAD I CAME.
KYA YAHOO!
I'M HAVING SUCH A GOOD TIME WITH MOURI
-HOW CAN I CHANGE MY FEELINGS?
EVEN IF IT'S JUST A ONE SIDED CRUSH-
THIS IS MAKING ME SO HAPPY.

ALL BETTER, たちなおり
BUT IF YOU DON'T TAKE IT RIGHT, I'LL BE MAD.
I KNOW.
THANKS, BUT SO LONG AS WE'RE IN THE PICTURE TOGETHER IT'S FINE.
WHETHER IT'S THE TWO OR THREE OF US.
WOW
THOSE TWO ARE HAVING FUN.
GYA! YOU IDIOT!
I LOVE THINGS LIKE THIS.
WOW. IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE IN A SCI-FI MOVIE!

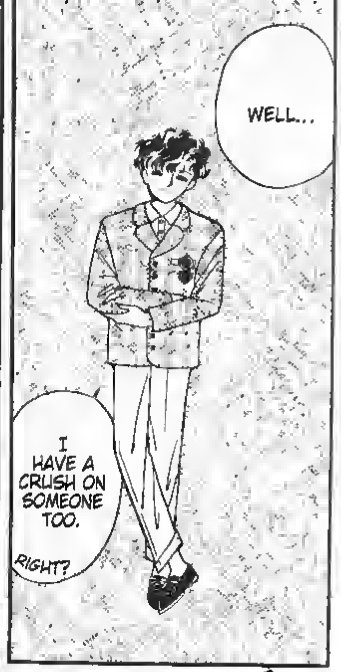
GO AHEAD AND TAKE THESE TO THEM. THERE'S SOMETHING I FORGOT TO GET.
IF I DON'T GET SOMETHING FOR MY LITTLE SISTER, SHE'LL KILL ME.
I WANT A HEAVY METAL MICKEY BADGE.
THIS WILL BE MY TREASURE.
Dentist
THAT WAS SO MUCH FUN.
-I HAVE TO BE THANKFUL TO MIYAHARA.
I'M PISSED BUT-

WOW! ME TOO!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE YOUR FEELINGS...
THE PICTURES SHOULD BE READY, SO I'LL GO GET THEM.
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY'RE OKAY.
MATTHEW TOM
THANK YOU TO THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE WHO SING AND DANCE IN THE "KIDS OF THE KINGDOM'S SHOW"
OH, THAT'S WHY YOU CAME WITH ME.
HEY, GIVE ME THE FIRST ONE WE TOOK, AND ANY OTHER BAD ONES.

I KNEW IT ALL ALONG-
-SO UPSET ?
-SO WHY AM I-
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. THINGS ARE GOING REALLY WELL WITH THOSE TWO.

BUT I WAS-
WHEN YOU FIRST ASKED ME OUT, I WAS SO SURPRISED.
-REALLY HAPPY.
I THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE KIND OF NICE-
-IF WE COULD KEEP GOING OUT.

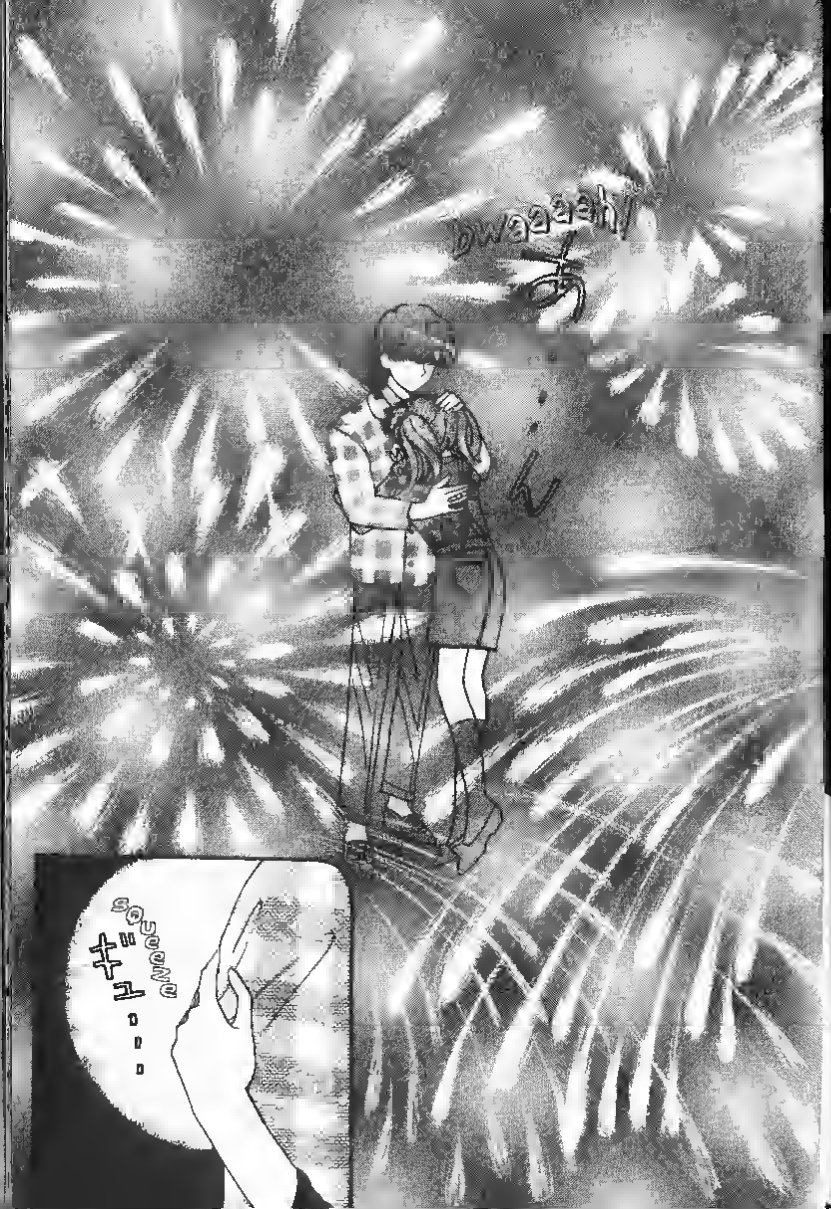
I'M SUPPOSED TO CRY HERE?
ON MIYAHARA'S SHOULDER?
THE FIREWORKS ARE ABOUT TO START-
-SO WHY DON'T WE EXPLODE TOO?


WELL...
I HAVE A CRUSH ON SOMEONE TOO.
RIGHT?

HOW FORCEFUL AND VIOLENT.
CRY!
LET GO OF ME!
I... I...
YOU GOTTA BE KIDD...

HERE.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO CRY?
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
IT'S BETTER IF YOU JUST LET IT ALL OUT AND CRY.
OH. NO WAY!
TSK TSK


dwaaaah!
squeeze
HATE HIM!
SSSSSSS...
BANG
I HATE YOU!

KARATE KID
MY UNCLE HAS A KARATE DOJO SO I GO THERE.
OH!
HENH!
HEH HEH I CAN CATCH A FLY WITH MY CHOPSTICKS
MASTER MR. MIYAGI
THEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO GRIPE ABOUT.
SORRY.
I WAS KIND OF TIRED SO WE SAT DOWN.
WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
OH, HERE YOU ARE.
LIFT.
GRAB
LET'S MOVE.
HE MADE HER CRY.
WHAT?
I'LL GIVE DISNEY SECURITY TO US.
THE SECURITIES.
A MAN BEHAVING STRINGELY
stare stare
じろじろ...
drag drag
ずるずる
EEK!
I LIKE ATHLETIC, HEALTHY GUYS.
IF YOU WERE INTO SPORTS, YOU'D BE MORE POPULAR.
HEY!
MIYAHARA'S PRETTY STRONG!

TOMO-CHAN CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST COMIC!

AND THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME DRAW THESE METALHEADS!

THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I NORMALLY WOULDN'T DRAW, I HOPE I DO A GOOD JOB!

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE DIFFERENCE WAS BETWEEN PUNK AND METAL-

-AND YOU PATIENTLY SHOWED ME THE DIFFERENCE BUT... I'M STILL NOT SO SURE, BUT I TOOK ON THE CHALLENGE!!

PLEASE HAVE A GOOD LAUGH AND FORGIVE ME.

IT'S BEEN 8 YEARS SINCE I GOT YOUR FIRST FAN LETTER IN 1981-

-AND NOW WE WRITE FOR THE SAME MAGA-ZINE.

IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE. I FEEL THE SAME WAY YOU DO!

I'M GOING TO WORK HARD, LIKE YOU.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!

THIS WAS ABE WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT HEAVY METAL

BY YUTAKA ABE.

DON'T WORRY. I'LL DRAG HER HOME.

WHAT? ARE YOU OKAY? DO YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH TO GET HOME?

HE LACKS BRIGHTNESS AND FRESHNESS BUT-

OKAY?

...

-IT MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD TO CHANGE MY TYPE.

-I KIND OF MAYBE THINK THAT-

The End

MY GOODNESS!
(I SOUND LIKE AN OLD PERSON),
I'M REALLY HAPPY RIGHT NOW!

Thanks God!

MY MANGA IS USUALLY DRAWN AROUND THINGS MY FRIENDS SAY TO ME WHEN I AM HEARTBROKEN OR DEPRESSED, OR GAGS THEY PULL. SO I CANNOT WRITE WITHOUT MY FRIENDS!

I WANTED THIS LAST WINTER BUT I DIDN'T HAVE THE GUTS TO WEAR OR BUY IT. A FAKE FUR WHITE TIGER COAT!!

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE MODEL FOR IMAMURA WAS 80% JOEY AND ABOUT 20% RITCHIE.

AND YUTAKA TATOKORO ON WARATTE IITOMO'S STYLE WAS PRETTY SIMILAR... AND WHEN I SAW HIM GIVING BOUQUETS OF FLOWERS TO THE GIRLS IN THE STUDIO, I THOUGHT, "KYA! IT'S IMAMURA!" (APOLOGIES TO THE FANS.)

BUT RECENTLY RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE SORT OF LOOKS LIKE A METALHEAD (NO ONE WOULD SAY IT SO I STARTED THE RUMOR. :::SMILE:::)

♥ And. Thanks to all of my friends in USA., CANADA, & Europe.!!! Always love & miss you guys all !!!

Bless you!!
XXXOOO !!!

TOMOKO Taniguchi Sept. 1989

CONT. FROM PAGE 50

WHEN I WAS WRITING THE STORIES IN THIS TANKOUBON, "METAL CORNER" WASN'T EVEN A SEGMENT ON "GENKI TV", AND THE AMATEUR BAND BOOM HADN'T HAPPENED YET. THE HARD ROCK/HEAVYMETAL BOOM STARTED 3-4 YEARS BEFORE (OR WAS IT BEFORE THAT?), BUT IT HADN'T REACHED THE LITTLE GIRLS OF JAPAN. I WAS ALWAYS PROMISING MY EDITORS TO STOP DRAWING METAL MATERIAL, BUT I KEPT MY HEAD DOWN AND THEY LET ME CONTINUE.

* BY THE WAY, PLEASE STOP REFERRING TO ME AS THE METAL QUEEN WHENEVER THERE'S AN EVENT. IT'S EMBARRASSING.

MY READERS MIGHT HAVE THE WRONG IDEA, BUT I AM NOT A HARD-CORE METAL CHICK. ARE YOU DISAPPOINTED? I LOVE EUROBEAT. I LOVE RICK AND SHENEETAC?) AND BANANARAMA! AND NONE OF MY FRIENDS LIKED METAL EITHER (I JUST RECENTLY BECAME FRIENDS WITH A METALHEAD). THESE STORIES WERE WRITTEN BY WATCHING METALHEADS IN HARAJUKU ON DOUBLE DECKERS AND AT CONCERTS.

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED BEAT TAKESHI MATERIAL ABOUT "METAL DUDES" AND SO "NAÏIVE METAL" WAS WRITTEN WITH THE IDEA THAT METALHEADS ARE WEIRD (THAT'S A COMPLIMENT). BY THE WAY, "HEAVYMETAL BATTLE OF THE BANDS" WAS A SEGMENT OF BEAT TAKESHI'S SHOW, BUT IT DIDN'T LAST LONG.

AND SOME OF MY READERS WHO SENT ME LETTERS WHO WERE INTO HARD ROCK/HEAVYMETAL TOLD ME TO DO MORE RESEARCH. AS I BOUGHT CD'S AND WENT TO CONCERTS, MY FRIEND STARTED TO WORRY THAT I HAD REALLY STARTED TO LIKE METAL, :::SMILE::: BUT SHE'S A CHRISTIAN SO I WENT AND ENJOYED STRYPER WITH HER.

I WAVED A MICKEY PENLIGHT FROM THE 4TH ROW AT BUDOKAN!

SO I DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN SAY I AM INTO METAL OR THAT I AM A METALHEAD. WHAT I REALLY LIKE ARE THE BALLADS OR THE BLUES SONGS THAT THE HARD ROCK BANDS SING. HEADBANGING IS TOO TIRING.

A READER TAUGHT ME HOW TO WRITE IT LIKE THIS.

"WONDERFUL CRUSH" IS A STORY PACKED WITH NOSTALGIA FOR ME. IT IS BASED ON SOMETHING A FRIEND OF MINE WHO WAS LIKE A BIG BROTHER SAID TO ME TO CHEER ME UP WHEN I HAD MY HEART BROKEN WHEN I WAS LIVING IN MICHIGAN.

MY PERSONAL STORY

MODEL: THE GUY WHO PLAYED WITH ME AT D-LAND, #2. THANK YOU FOR PUTTING UP WITH ME! I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR BALLAD! XXOO!!

EEK! THIS DOESN'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE HIM; IT'S FUNNY! (SORRY!)

NOTE: ONLY ONE OUT OF EVERY TWO OF MY STORIES ARE METAL BUT EVERYONE THINKS IT'S A BIG DEAL WHEN I WRITE A "NORMAL" STORY! WHY!?

TULIPS, FOR SOME REASON.

Reading this book again brought back great memories. I remembered how much I enjoyed writing and drawing these stories. It was the beginning of my career as a manga artist and I was REALLY happy! It's always great to remember how things were when you were a beginner.

I hope you enjoyed this book, if you did, please write me!

richtomo@h9.dion.ne.jp

I hope I get to meet you at a convention!

Best wishes,
Tomoko Taniguchi
January 8, 2003

ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

Tomoko Taniguchi was born in Hokkaidō, the northernmost part of Japan. She spent one year in Ann Arbor studying English and she graduated from the English Institute program at the University of Michigan.

She has had a total of nine tankoubans (Japanese graphic novels) published under the M8 (or My Birthday) Comics label in Japan, including *CALL ME PRINCESS*, *AQUARIUM*, *PRINCESS PRINCE* and *LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER*. Tomoko has been published in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, the U.S.A. and Mexico.

TOMOKO'S OMAKE

LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER was the first tankouban that I ever got published way back in 1989, so it's a little embarrassing to think that now, so many years later, it is being published for the first time in the United States. I was very worried that people in the U.S. wouldn't like it even though it was already published in Japan, China, and Taiwan.

I wrote *LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER* for young girls and girls in their early teens. It is full of the memories of my youth and will always hold a special place in my heart even though it might seem dated since it is from the 80's.

I started my work as a professional shoujo artist with the story *RINPAN BALANCE*. It was a contest winner that was later published. My second story was *LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER*. It was the editor's idea to pick a song and use the song for the story. I chose a song by Princess Princess, my favorite Japanese girl band (If you've read my other books, you'll remember how much I LOVE the words princess and prince! I think I use those words too much in my books). Let's Stay Together Forever featured metal kids just like *RINPAN BALANCE*. I loved metal kids so much back then!

When I was a young girl, I hated noisy metal music. Heavy metal fashion looked funny and even stupid to me. I hated the tight leather pants, spiky jackets and dirty messy long hair...YUCK! Then I began to research metal for my manga. I thought it would be an interesting setting for my stories. Then before I knew what was happening, I started to actually think that metal kids were attractive. I don't know what happened! Suddenly Jon Bon Jovi and Joey Tempest from Europe became princes to me (In fact, I still love Jon Bon Jovi and can't wait to see him and his band play here in Japan)! Unfortunately, most hard rock artists don't make much new music these days. I miss them.

Back then I was exactly like Midori. Metal boys were like knights to me. I think there was probably something wrong with me. My imagination would go wild. I love stories about knights and princes; perhaps I was a prince in another life. If you have read *PRINCESS PRINCE* then you have probably figured that out by now.

I originally drew the first page of this graphic novel in color. Did you notice my portraits of famous actors in there? You can see Ralph Macchio, Matthew Broderick Molly Ringwald, and Joey Tempest. Back then I loved drawing portraits of stars in crayon.

The main boy's name, "Leo" was from River Phoenix's nickname "Rio". He was a popular star in Japan! Leo and Rio are Japanese names but their meanings can vary greatly depending on what Chinese character we use to represent it. Also, many people wrote and told me that they thought I used Jon Bon Jovi as the model for Leo.

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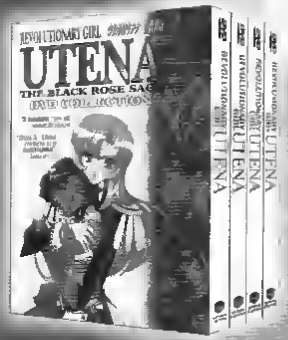

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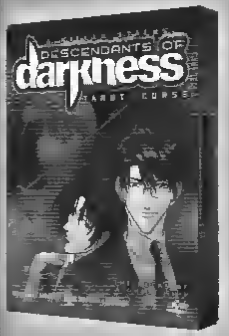

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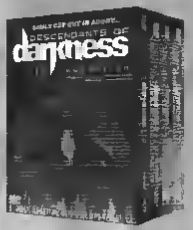

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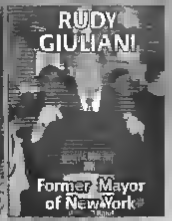

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Stop!

THIS IS THE LAST PAGE OF THE BOOK! DON'T RUIN THE ENDING FOR YOURSELF.
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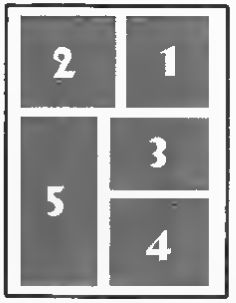

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